

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 25, 2026

ARCADIA | ATLANTA | CICERO | SHERIDAN
 CARMEL | FISHERS | NOBLESVILLE | WESTFIELD



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Partly to mostly sunny.
 Tonight: Rain and snow showers.
 Less than an inch accumulation.



HIGH: 45 LOW: 26

Noblesville Elks & Harvest Food Bank working to feed the hungry

A needed discussion

By Terri Sigman-Kennedy
 Noblesville Elks

Noblesville Elks #576, in support of the Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank, recently donated \$2,000 to aid in their mission.

Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank supports over 40 food pantries and food programs in Hamilton County. All donations made to the food bank stay in Hamilton County.

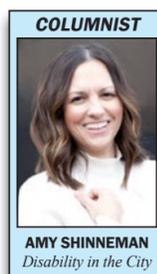
Approximately 14,000 students in Hamilton County are on free or reduced lunch programs. The Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank's mission remains a critical part to support our neighbors who are food insecure. "Working Together WITH YOU to feed Hamilton County since 2009." The Noblesville Elks continues to partner with many worthwhile organizations in Noblesville and Hamilton County.

For more information, go to hchfoodbank.org or call (317) 439-9875. Learn more about Noblesville Elks #576 at elks.org or call (317) 773-4182.



Photo provided
 (From left) Mary Lou Fincham, Elks Past State President Geoff Robinson, Suzanne Davis, HCH Food Bank Executive Director Suzanna Hobson, Kit Prohm, Terri Sigman-Kennedy (Elks), Lissa Robinson (Elks), and Paula Stansberry.

A few weeks ago, I took part in a roundtable discussion with a group of disabled parents. The group included four moms and one dad, with our kids ranging from six months to 22 years old. Everyone in the group had a form of Muscular Dystrophy, with varying degrees of disabilities.



A group like this is all I ever wanted as a disabled parent. I was thrilled that the Muscular Dystrophy Association brought this group together for such a meaningful discussion. We spoke for about two hours, but it would have been easy to continue for a couple more. We were all in need of this level of connection.

Each of us was able to share our perspectives on a variety of diverse ways that parenting with a disability has shaped our parenting and our families. It was interesting to hear all our similarities, and the unique ways that we adapt as parents with disabilities.

The consensus was that we need more of these types of groups. Information for disabled people who want to become parents can be sparse.

Although my kids are in college now, it was comforting to hear the younger parents speak. It confirmed that the feelings I had when my kids were little were real and that I did a lot of things right.

As the person in the group who has the oldest kids, I was able to share a lot of my perspective with the various stages of my kid's lives. I could see the relief in the face of the young mom with the six-month-old as I spoke about the physical strain easing as they got older. That absolutely filled my heart with joy to know I was able to share some insight with her. That she had a renewed confidence in herself.

See Needed . . . Page 2

County awarded \$6.7 million in funding for road improvements

Project advances key east-west corridor in northern Hamilton County

The REPORTER

Hamilton County has been awarded \$6,755,200 in federal transportation funding through the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) to improve 281st Street from Rulon Road to State Road 213.

The funding is part of INDOT's latest round of federal infrastructure investments supporting road and bridge improvements across rural Indiana communities.

The 281st Street project will upgrade the roadway to better accommodate increased traffic and heavy vehicles

traveling through northern Hamilton County. Planned improvements include widening travel lanes, strengthening and improving roadway shoulders, and enhancing drainage systems.

The project is another major step in the county's long-term plan to create a safer, more efficient east-west corridor connecting U.S. 31 to State Road 37. Hamilton County has already completed improvements connecting the new U.S.



Altman

31 interchange to State Road 19, and additional upgrades are planned between State Road 19 and Rulon Road.

Average daily traffic along the corridor has increased nearly 160 percent since 2020 – growth driven by new business investment, expanded access to U.S. 31, and the construction of the consolidated National Guard Armory.

"This funding allows us to stay ahead of growth instead of

reacting to it," Hamilton County Commissioner and Commission President Christine Altman said. "When we invest in roads like 281st Street, we're not just adding pavement – we're strengthening public safety, supporting agriculture and industry, and ensuring our transportation network can serve this county for decades to come."

Communities receiving federal funds must provide a local match and meet federal project requirements. Due to the availability of funds, project construction will likely start in 2030.

Provider welfare fraud recoveries during Rokita administration surpass \$100 million

Submitted by Office of AG Todd Rokita

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita announced at a press conference on Tuesday, Feb. 24 that his Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) has surpassed \$100 million in provider welfare fraud recoveries since January 2021.

"Today's announcement is important for Hoosier taxpayers who are concerned about government fraud," AG Rokita. "It

is also important for our most vulnerable citizens who depend on Medicaid for their health care."

One of MFCU's duties is to investigate health care providers who intentionally defraud the state's Medicaid program through deceptive billing practices. The sum of the \$100 million represents recoveries of various



Rokita

amounts secured in 89 cases, some civil and criminal.

In addition to fraud, MFCU also investigates drug diversion and the abuse and neglect of patients at Medicaid-supported facilities. In criminal cases spanning all three of these categories, the unit since January 2021 has secured 252 indictments, 233 convictions,

and 292 exclusions from being allowed to continue billing Medicaid and/or Medicare.

"I am here to congratulate this team but also note that this is an ongoing, effective effort of my office," AG Rokita said. "As long as I am attorney general, it will continue to be a priority."

MFCU's achievement here in Indiana provides a marked contrast to the ways in which

See Fraud . . . Page 2

WHO withdrawal will prove bad for public health

One year ago, President Trump initiated the U.S. withdrawal from the World Health Organization by executive order. It's an irresponsible, uninformed, poorly thought-out, and dangerous decision.



In order to withdraw, WHO agreements plus federal law require one year's advanced notice as well as fulfillment of outstanding financial obligations to the WHO; the withdrawal could now be finalized.

However, Trump refuses to pay the financial obligations but will proceed essentially unchallenged. He earlier ordered the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to terminate all collaborations with the WHO and to cease WHO payments. He claims that our assessments are far out of proportion to those of other wealthy countries, particularly China. Indeed, the U.S. is the largest funder of the WHO (22 percent of total WHO assessments; China is 15 percent).

The WHO, with 196 member countries, is part of the United Nations. Among many essential health functions, it works to contain serious disease outbreaks, identify novel and emerging diseases, collaborate primarily with the U.S. to develop new vaccines (including seasonal influenza), and maintain high vaccination rates for serious diseases in underdeveloped countries. Consider its global role in the elimination of smallpox, the near elimination of polio, and the great progress in HIV/AIDS control. We should have continuing concerns about emerging diseases, including monkeypox and avian influenza and controlling Ebola, Zika, Dengue, influenza, Marburg virus, and others.

Aside from COVID-19 vaccine development, President Trump's handling of the pandemic in the U.S. was slow and chaotic. Nonetheless, Trump has criticized the WHO for its handling of the pandemic, failure to institute reforms, and lack of independence from political influences. He has unfoundedly accused the WHO of conspiring with China to cover up the true origins of COVID-19.

See WHO . . . Page 2

Chamber recognizes Westfield Lions for serving others, named 2025 Service Club of the Year

By JEFF LARRISON
 Westfield Lions Club

At the Jan. 29 Westfield Chamber of Commerce's annual Lantern Awards Night, the Westfield Lions were selected as the top service club in Westfield for 2025. This is the club's second time winning the award and underscores the club's significant impact on the community.

The Westfield Lions are an extremely active organization, including performing numerous service projects in the area, raising funds for charities, and supporting the Westfield schools and their students. The highlights for 2025 include awarding over \$41,000 to charities, individuals in need,

and youth programs.

Conducting vision screenings for over 600 third graders, donating dictionaries to every Westfield third grader, sponsoring five middle school students on the annual class trip to Washington, D.C., and awarding \$13,000 in scholarships are a few examples of the support provided to the schools and their students.

The Westfield Lions also performed hundreds of hours of service work, including volunteering at the Indiana Diabetes Youth Camp, the Colts Training Camp, the bi-monthly Gleaner's Mobile Food Pantry events, and assisting the Westfield Kiwanis Club with their Avenue of Flags Project.

The list of service projects



Photo provided
 (From left) Nolan Barr (Westfield Chamber Member), Lions Bob Benson, Tracy Rogers, Craig Cooley, and Logan Reiff, and Chamber of Commerce President Courtney Albright.

and recipients of the donations and grants goes on and on. The Westfield Lions embody the Lions Clubs International motto of "We Serve."

To find out more about the Westfield Lions and how you can be a part of the largest service club in the world, go to WestfieldLions.org.

NEEDED

I also really valued the disabled father's perspective. As a dad, he had some different feelings and challenges than the moms in the group. We all agreed while we were glad to have him join us, it would also be helpful to start a group for dads with Muscular Dystrophy.

We all got somber when we talked about the disconnect with other parents at our kid's schools. We agreed that it can be intimidating to be the only disabled parent at school functions, and that those functions are often not accessible. This only adds to the disconnect.

For me, the most powerful part of the discussion was hearing about how our kids have such a powerful

example of daily perseverance living alongside of hardship. They also get a unique perspective on how a spouse responds to disability as well, and a front row seat to the invaluable role of a caregiver.

There was discussion of how there can be difficult periods with our children as they deal with the social stigma from their peers. On the other side of that, our children learn how to answer tough questions as well as invaluable lessons in resiliency.

Though none of us had met before the day of the discussion, there was a pre-existing bond that held us together. Many of our difficulties unspoken but understood. It was a no judge-

ment zone. We did not have to prove to one another that we are worthy of the title of "parent."

There are added pressures to "prove" ourselves when parenting with a disability. Society often does not give us the benefit of the doubt. Incorrect assumptions that we are "unfit" often cloud our own realities, leaving us to question once again, "am I good enough?"

We strive to get it right, but the truth is, perfect parents do not exist. Sharing a snapshot of the different challenges of parenting with a disability is my way of saying that there is more than one way to love and care for a child.

Proving that different paths can lead one to pro-

found love.

My children have both told me in ways of their own, that their favorite part about our family and the deepest life lessons they have learned have been because of my disability, as well as watching the love and care shown to me by their dad.

Until next time ...

Amy Shinneman is a former National Ambassador for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, disability blogger, freelance writer, wife, and mom of two boys. She is the recipient of the Reporter's Winter 2025 Ink-Stained Wretch award. You can find her blog at humblycourageous.com and reach her on Instagram @ashinneman.

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HAMILTON COUNTY HARVEST
FOOD BANK

Harvest Happenings

Latest updates from Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank

Submitted

Hamilton County Harvest (HCH) Food Bank serves as a crucial hub in the fight against food insecurity in Hamilton County, bringing together grocery stories, local farmers, donors, and volunteers to support an array of local food banks. You can learn more and donate online at hchfoodbank.org.

Annual Meeting

On March 16, join HCH for the annual meeting to learn about everything accomplished last year, and all the exciting new initiatives the food bank has coming up.

The meeting is set for 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Delaware Township Community Center, 9094 E. 131st St., Fishers.

Tickets are free and lunch will be provided. [Click here](#) to sign up.

Cheftacular

The date has changed for Cheftacular 2026. It will now take place on April 27 at the Carmel High School Fieldhouse.

This one-of-a-kind culinary event brings together professional chefs, student culinarians, live music, fine art, and incredible food, all in support of CHS Culinary Arts, the Cheftacular Scholarship, and the food bank. You can purchase tickets at [this link](#).

School Food Drives

This winter, many local schools held food drives for the food bank. Thank you to all schools that participated, including:

First semester participants:

- Carmel Elementary
- Fishers High School

- Town Meadow Elementary
- Clay Center Elementary
- Carmel Middle School
- Mohawk Trails Elementary
- Thorpe Creek Elementary
- Deer Creek Elementary
- Prairie Trace Elementary
- College Wood Elementary
- West Clay Elementary
- Second semester participants:
- Fall Creek Elementary
- Forest Dale Elementary
- Harrison Parkway Elementary

Additionally, a huge thank you to Carpenter Realtors Office in Fishers for their holiday food drive. Your donation is appreciated.

Love your neighbors & host a food drive

Valentine's Day may be over, but it's never too late to spread the love. What better way to show your love of your community and neighbors than by hosting a food drive at your business, church, or neighborhood?

All donated food will be sorted and distributed to more than 40 local pantries and meal programs at no cost to them. Keeping their shelves stocked is a huge burden for the pantries to bear alone. HCH Food Bank helps make sure that the food pantries have what they need so they can concentrate on their most important mission: serving neighbors in need.

[Click here](#) to learn more about hosting a food drive.

WHO

Granted, the WHO has shortcomings. It's imperfect and has been criticized in public health circles for inefficiencies, complicated bureaucracy, and, at times, relatively slow responses. But American and foreign public health officials worry that if the U.S. pulls out, there will be dire consequences to global health security. Disease surveillance, deployment of vaccines and medications, worldwide humanitarian relief, and responses to serious disease outbreaks and pandemics could be egregiously weakened.

Ending membership will isolate America. It will thwart participation in information sharing and coordination during health emergencies with foreign partners and hinder our own future pandemic planning.

We will lose a diplomatic entryway to engage countries with which we have poor political relationships. We will have no input and lose our role as the major influencer in international health policy and health regulation development, opening the door for China and Russia to have increasing influence. It appears Trump is myopically willing

to throw the baby out with the bathwater. Withdrawal is not the answer.

There is no question that the WHO has saved millions of lives in America and worldwide since its creation in 1948. Notable public health experts have publicly called this decision "a catastrophic mistake" and "a grave strategic error" and warn us that "our public health agencies would be flying blind." Lack of communication, not knowing what's happening in the world, and no access to critical data are dangerous things.

Remember that in this

age of global travel, a disease outbreak anywhere is a threat everywhere and can swiftly affect the U.S. Trump progressively isolates the U.S. by alienation of NATO allies with offensive rhetoric, tariffs, and withdrawal from other United Nations and international agreements.

One thing is clear: Isolationism doesn't work for infectious diseases.

Richard D. Feldman, M.D. is an Indianapolis family physician and former Indiana State Health Commissioner who served in the administration of Governor Frank O'Bannon.

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FRAUD

welfare fraud is making headlines in Minnesota and Maine – where federal investigators are looking into allegations that state officials, despite warning signs, failed to take measures to prevent plots to misdirect taxpayer funds intended for social programs.

"Here in Indiana, we will keep catching and helping prosecute perpetrators who purposefully exploit systems intended to help the poor," AG Rokita said. "To steal resources from a program with that mission requires a special breed of despicable."

Often, those committing this form of welfare fraud

are professionals collecting money from the healthcare and medical fields – individuals familiar with technicalities in the Medicaid system who use their specialized knowledge to find ways to break the rules and feather their own nests without getting caught.

MFCU Director and Chief Counsel Matthew Whitmire described the MFCU's accomplishments as resulting from a team effort.

"The successful recovery of \$100 million by the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit reflects the importance of sustained efforts to fight fraud and protect the state

Medicaid program's fiscal integrity," Whitmire said. "The hard work of the dedicated attorneys, investigators and auditors is reflected in this achievement and is a testament to their skill in combating fraud."

The case that pushed MFCU's total recoveries under AG Rokita past \$100 million involved a former physician from Burlington, Indiana, who overcharged Medicaid by more than \$1 million for urine samples. He did so by inflating the number of samples he collected and analyzed from patients seeking a prescription for opioid pills or other pain medicine.

The former physician, Don J. Wagoner, was also convicted of felony drug dealing. A \$1.7 million settlement resulted from [a case against Wagoner jointly filed](#) by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Indiana and the Indiana Medicaid Fraud Control Unit.

The Indiana MFCU receives 75 percent of its funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under a federal grant. The remaining 25 percent is funded by the State of Indiana.

Watch AG Rokita's press conference announcing this milestone [here](#).

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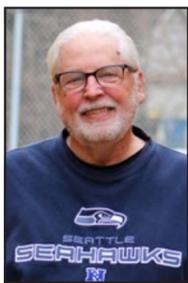
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Cravens



Henry



Corlett



Frizzell



Cummings

Sheridan Community Schools appreciates Transportation Department

Submitted by Sheridan Community Schools

Sheridan Community Schools (SCS) recognizes and thanks the district's incredible bus drivers. These individuals go above and beyond to safely transport students every day. Their dedication, care, and commitment are a vital part of the school community.

Jim Cravens

Cravens started as a bus driver for SCS in Sep-

tember 2022. He is always willing to help out when needed and enjoys driving to various sporting events to watch his grandchildren play. His dedication and commitment to SCS does not go unnoticed.

Brandy Henry

Henry was hired in as a bus aide on the Life Skills bus in August 2015 and later decided to obtain her CDL and began driving the Life Skills and Early Childhood

routes. She is always dependable and ready to work each day.

Donella Corlett

Corlett started driving in February 2023. She is liked by all her students and the families she transports. She is always positive as she never complains and shows up every day with a smile.

Jeff Frizzell

Frizzell started in May 2023. He was a full-time

sub driver for a short time before taking over his current route. His daily motto is "8 is great" since he drives bus 8.

Denny Cummings

Cummings was hired in September 2007. He has driven the same route for many years. He is the second-longest driver currently at SCS. He enjoys golfing and also works at a golf course during the warmer months.

Tickets & sponsorships available for Westfield Chamber golf outing

The REPORTER

Get ready to tee off with the Westfield Chamber of Commerce's 23rd annual Golf Outing from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, May 11, presented by these Diamond Partners: Abbott, American Sound, Bondry Consulting, the City of Westfield, Community First Bank of Indiana, Community Health Network, Core Construction, and Invest Hamilton County.

The golf outing will take place at Wood Wind Golf Club, 2302 W. 161st St., Westfield.

This event is open to all community members and organizations in Hamilton County, with a special discounted rate for Westfield Chamber Partners. The golf outing is much more than just a round on the course; it's an opportunity to network and discover what makes Westfield thrive in central Indiana.

Not a golfer? There are plenty of sponsorship opportunities available for you to gain exposure at the Chamber's most anticipated event of the year. Player spots will go quickly, so please [click here](#) for all registration options.

Golfer information

The Westfield Chamber is grateful to Wood Wind Golf Course for agreeing to host the 23rd annual Golf Outing.

Prices include a round of golf on the 18-Hole Championship Course. Additionally, golfers have access to the practice range before the Golf Outing begins, two golf carts per foursome, a free Bloody Mary Bar, a boxed lunch to grab before the shotgun start, complimentary beverages throughout the day, and entry



to the 19th Hole Reception at the end of the day. Golfers will have the opportunity to win exciting prizes from the hole sponsors, which will be announced at reception along with the prized Dippel Cup Winner, second-, and third-place teams. Proceeds from this event support the Westfield Chamber of Commerce.

Available packages

- **Foursome Team** (\$800 Partner / \$1,300 Non-Partner): four players included; two golf carts

- **Two Player Team** (\$400 Partner / \$650 Non-Partner): two players included, plus two golfers assigned to the team; two golf carts

- **Individual Golfer** (\$200 Partner / \$325 Non-Partner) one player included; will be assigned to a team to create a foursome. Shared golf cart.

[Click here](#) to golf. Email info@westfieldchamberindy.com with any registration questions.

Sponsorship opportunities

[Click here](#) to purchase a sponsorship opportunity on the Westfield Chamber website. Once your payment is received, a Chamber Staff Member will reach out to obtain a high-resolution version of your company's artwork. Arrival and set-up instructions will be sent the week prior to the event. Email info@westfieldchamberindy.com with any sponsorship questions.

HAMILTON COUNTY

Candidates who have filed for the May 5, 2026 Primary Election

Note that * indicates the candidate is the incumbent for that office.

To view precinct and district maps, please visit hamiltoncounty.in.gov/221/Precinct-and-District-Maps.

The Hamilton County Reporter does not guarantee the accuracy of the state or national candidate list data coming from the Indiana Secretary of State's website.

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE, 5TH DISTRICT

- Steven Avitabile Avit (D)
- J.D. Ford (D)
- Scott A. King (R)
- Jackson Franklin (D)
- Phil Goss (D)
- Dylan McKenna (D)
- Tara Nelson (D)
- Deborah A. Pickett (D)
- *Victoria Spartz (R)

STATE SENATOR

- District 21**
- *James (Jim) Buck (R)
- Joseph Kazias (D)
- Tracey Powell (R)
- Kirsten Root (D)

District 25

- Katherine V. Callahan (R)
- Tamie Dixon-Tatum (D)
- *Mike Gaskill (R)
- Todd Shelton (D)

District 29

- Mike Delph (R)
- V. Roni Ford (R)
- David W. Greene, Sr. (D)
- Demetrice Hicks (D)
- Kristina Moorhead (D)
- John Ruckelshaus (R)
- Kevin Short (D)

District 31

- Juanita Albright (R)
- Andrew J. Dezellan (D)
- Tiffanie Ditlevson (R)
- Kerry J. Forestal (D)
- Travis Hankins (R)
- Jan Kepley Keefer (R)
- Lasima O. Packet (D)
- Catherine Torzewski (D)

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

District 24

- Racheal Bleicher (D)

District 29

- *Hunter Smith (R)

District 37

- Coumba Kebe (D)

District 32

- *Alaina Shonkwiler (R)

District 37

- Devon Wellington (D)

District 32

- *Victoria Garcia Wilburn (D)

District 37

- Lauren S. Cole (D)

District 39

- *Todd Huston (R)

District 39

- Joel Levi (D)

District 39

- Lindsay Gramlich (D)

District 88

- *Danny Lopez (R)

District 88

- Billy Qian (R)

District 88

- *Chris Jeter (R)

District 88

- Stephanie Jo Yocum (D)

SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE

Superior Court No. 3

- Chris Evans (R)

Superior Court No. 4

- Amy B. Summerfield (R)

Superior Court No. 5

- Chadwick Hill (R)

Superior Court No. 8

- Angela Brown Swenson (R)

Superior Court No. 5

- Trampas Alan Whalin (R)

Superior Court No. 8

- *David K. Najjar (R)

Superior Court No. 8

- Danica L. Eyster (R)

Superior Court No. 9

- Emily L. Angel Shaw (D)

Superior Court No. 9

- Christopher Barrows (R)

Superior Court No. 9

- Sarah Shields (R)

Superior Court No. 9

- Paul C. Sweeney (R)

COUNTY ASSESSOR

- *Kevin W. Poore (R)

COUNTY CLERK

- Beth Sheller (R)

COUNTY CORONER

- *Jeff D. Jellison (R)

COUNTY PROSECUTOR

- *Josh Kocher (R)

COUNTY RECORDER

- *Trini Beaver (R)

COUNTY SHERIFF

- Dustin K. Dixon (R)

COUNTY SHERIFF

- John Lowes (R)

COUNTY COMMISSIONER

District 1

- *Christine Altman (R)

COUNTY COUNCIL

District 1

- Christopher Daniel (D)

District 1

- *Tim Griffin (R)

District 2

- Nathan Bullock (D)

District 2

- *Amy Elizabeth Massillamany (R)

District 3

- *Mark F. Hall (R)

District 3

- Kevin Miles Wright (D)

District 4

- *Ken Alexander (R)

- Jason E. Frank (D)

ARCADIA TOWN COUNCIL

District 2

- *Amanda Engle (R)

District 3

- *Doug Grishaw (R)

ATLANTA TOWN COUNCIL

At-Large (vote for 2)

- *Fred A. Farley (R)

- John Phifer (R)

CICERO TOWN COUNCIL

At-Large (vote for 2)

- *Joe Cox (R)

SHERIDAN TOWN COUNCIL

At-Large

- *Daniel A. Bragg (R)

- *Michael Foote (R)

District 1

- Garrett Gossard (R)

District 2

- Heidi Kienholz (R)

District 4

- Andrew R. Porterfield (R)

- Terry Thompson (R)

TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE

Clay Township

- *Paul D. Hensel (R)

Delaware Township

- *Deborah Debbie Driskell (R)

Fall Creek Township

- *Doug Allman (R)

- Stephanie Hunt (D)

Jackson Township

- *Robyn Cook (R)

Noblesville Township

- *Theresa Caldwell (R)

Washington Township

- Jeffery Bledsoe Jr. (D)

- *Jamie Goetz Mills (R)

Wayne Township

- *Laura McNamara (R)

White River Township

- Lisa Suzanne Flanders (R)

- Kat Wilson (D)

TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBER

Clay Township (vote for 3)

- *Paul K. Bolin (R)

- Gregory Daniels (D)

- David Haboush (R)

- Michael Needham (D)

- Steven Litzelman Nisi (D)

- Matthew J. Phelps (D)

- Morgan B. Rinehart (R)

Delaware Township (vote for 3)

- Bethann Buddenbaum (D)

- Jennifer Dean Chaudhry (D)

- *Rick Fain (R)

- *Kim Logan (R)

- *Marilyn A. Schenkel (R)

- Patrick Schooley (D)

Fall Creek Township (vote for 3)

- *Susan Davis (R)

- Diane Eaton (R)

- Lynne Goodin (R)

- Alex J. Hunt (D)

Noblesville Township (vote for 3)

- Nicholas Edward Musselwhite (D)

- Mulalo Rikhotso (D)

- Joe Weingarten (D)

Jackson Township (vote for 3)

- Kimberly Chance (R)

- Elizabeth Fouch (R)

- *Jim Hunter (R)

- Andre Maue (R)

- *Jeffery S. Roberts (R)

- Eric Scherer (R)

Noblesville Township (vote for 3)

- *Joe Arrowood (R)

- Paula Jo Gilliam (D)

- Thomas (TJ) Houghtalen Jr. (R)

- *Peggy R. Pfister (R)

- *Mary Sue Rowland (R)

- Joe Spangler (R)

- Jenna Stewart (D)

Washington Township (vote for 3)

- *Jim Ake (R)

- Bennie Britt (D)

- Michael Cardwell (D)

HAMILTON COUNTY

Candidates who have filed for the May 5, 2026 Primary Election

To view precinct and district maps, please visit hamiltoncounty.in.gov/221/Precinct-and-District-Maps.

PRECINCT CMTE. – DEMOCRATS

Clay 2: Cynthia Henry
 Clay 3: Courtney Jane Culver
 Clay 8: Babette Miller
 Clay 12: Jessica Irvine
 Clay 13: Dakota Crawford
 Clay 14: Alexandra E. Wilson
 Clay 23: Dawn Sparks
 Clay 24: Erin Retif
 Clay 28: Edwin Russell
 Clay 31: Deborah Pickett
 Clay 40: Mindi Epstein, Lance Robert Ladendorf
 Clay 47: Amber Davis
 Clay 48: Beth Sprunger
 Clay 49: Jessica Griffith Cortwright
 Clay 51: Mark Taber
 Clay 55: Lawrence McCormack
 Clay 56: Darlene Mundy Dimmer
 Clay 57: Sarah Ogren
 Clay 65: Catherine Patterson
 Clay 68: Annette Gross
 Delaware 3: Nicholas Alan Myers
 Delaware 5: Amy Klodzen, Justin D. Switzer
 Delaware 6: Greg Goodnight
 Delaware 8: Ronald F. Crawford
 Delaware 9: Sara Schmitt
 Delaware 19: Bill Stuart
 Delaware 20: Judy Delp

Fall Creek 1: Barbara A. Jenkins
 Fall Creek 2: Lisa Olivero
 Fall Creek 9: Heather Pirowski
 Fall Creek 10: Shelley Fabrizio
 Fall Creek 12: June Levey
 Fall Creek 15: Stephanie Hunt
 Fall Creek 16: Glen D. Kemery
 Fall Creek 19: Gregory A. Purvis
 Fall Creek 23: Mary Dankoski
 Fall Creek 24: Mani Subramaniam
 Fall Creek 25: Jasmine Jackson, Sarah Renfro
 Fall Creek 27: Robert Clamme
 Fall Creek 33: Deetta Steinmetz
 Fall Creek 41: Erin Randolph-Pupurs
 Fall Creek 47: Natasha Retz
 Jackson 6: Dorcia Bradley
 Noblesville 2: Jeffrey Nickloy
 Noblesville 9: Christopher Hartig
 Noblesville 16: Carson M. Piedmonte
 Noblesville 18: Daryl Cobranchi
 Noblesville 20: Sarah Elizabeth Fix
 Noblesville 27: Julia Ann Resler
 Noblesville 29: Brian S. Jonasen
 Noblesville 30: Christina Adele Downey
 Noblesville 45: Jill T. Crehan
 Sheridan 1: Kirsten Root
 Sheridan 3: Cheryl L. Popiela
 Sheridan 4: Pam Williams

Wayne 1: Mary Frischkorn-Meza
 Wayne 5: Amber McKibbin
 Wayne 7: James (Jim) Harter
 Westfield 1: Jamie Flemington
 Westfield 3: David M. Garcia
 Westfield 4: Shelly A. Brown
 Westfield 5: Axel J. Sundling
 Westfield 6: Kim Qian
 Westfield 7: Hayley Morgan
 Westfield 8: Evelyn J. Davis
 Westfield 10: Amy Christmas
 Westfield 11: Margaret (Peggy) Furniss
 Westfield 12: Matt McNally
 Westfield 14: Andrew D. Kauffman
 Westfield 16: Xavier Lewis
 Westfield 18: Dwayne Lewis
 Westfield 19: Melissa Auciello-Brogan
 Westfield 24: Elizabeth H. Anderson
 Westfield 25: Bennie Britt
 Westfield 26: Rhonda Ann Cardwell
 Westfield 28: Philip E. Gidley
 Westfield 31: Charles Casey Miller-Bock
 Westfield 33: Brandee L. Easterday
 Westfield 34: Cheryl L. Austin
 Westfield 35: Tracy M. Wheeler
 White River: Kat Wilson

STATE DELEGATE – DEMOCRATS

Adams Township (vote for 6)

Cheryl L. Popiela
 Kirsten Root
 Pam Williams

Clay Township (vote for 40)

Kirk A. Boller
 Sharon Boller
 Robert J. Bonner
 Ben Boyce
 Andrea A. Burnett
 Jamie Campbell
 Martin J. Carey
 Shelley M. Paulson Carey
 William Clontz
 Jason Cookson
 Stacy Covitz
 Dakota Crawford
 Christopher Daniel
 Cynthia Daniels
 Gregory Daniels
 Amber Davis
 Deborah K. Dean
 Gerald A. Denys
 Janet Denys
 Darlene Mundy Dimmer
 Robert Draper
 Sara Draper
 Karen H. Elliott
 Mindi Epstein
 Pam Fischer
 Karen S. Glowacki
 Lindsay Gramlich
 James A. Grimes
 Annette Gross
 Peter Hanscom
 Cynthia Henry
 Sandra Hoy
 Elisabeth Irvine
 Jessica Irvine
 Cynthia Johnson
 Grace Johnston
 Deborah Jonasson
 Keith Jonasson
 Anita Joshi
 Mary F. Kinietz-Boyd
 Elizabeth S. Kinn
 Sarah Koch
 Kirsten D. Kowalewski
 Michele S. Lassaux-Harlan
 Kyle Lenig
 Kathleen Gallagher Liddy
 Rebekah Martin
 Michael Francis (Mickey) Masterson
 Lawrence McCormack
 Babette Miller
 Geraldine (Gene) Rodriguez Miller
 Susan Mills
 Allison Missler
 Tom Missler
 Marcia Molenda
 Annalise Moore
 Stacy Moore
 Kristina Moorhead
 Miles Nelson
 Steven Litzelman Nisi
 Sarah Ogren
 Catherine Patterson
 Ryan Pfenninger
 Deborah Pickett
 Zach Phillips
 Kristin K. Remble
 Stephen R. Ring
 Susan Kelly Ring
 David Rosenthal
 Edwin Russell

Beth Sprunger
 Elizabeth Stippler
 Beverly Thornburg
 Ashlyn Twibell
 Jean M. Upton
 Joe H. Vaughn
 Judith A. Weitzman
 Jennifer Nelson Williams
 Alexandra E. Wilson
 David Woll

Delaware Township (vote for 20)

Nancy Arce
 Ronald F. Crawford
 Judy Delp
 Michelle Eli
 Wendy Plenty Ferguson
 Ashlei Gloye
 Amy Klodzen
 Nicholas Alan Myers
 Lasima O. Packett
 Litsi Plonski
 Emilie Rains
 Ross Reinhardt
 Diana W. Rigsbee
 Julie Roberts
 Jo Ann Sheffield
 Bill Stuart
 Alexander J. Waclawik

Fall Creek Township (vote for 20)

Sarah Arbuckle
 Patricia (Tish) Biggs
 Samantha R. Chapman
 Daniel R. Cooper
 Nancy Kuehl Coughlin
 Mary Coyle
 Jeb Stuart Cox
 Eric Crouse
 Jane B. Crouse
 Mary Dankoski
 Christine Dean
 Wanda Riesz Duchnowski
 Danielle Estridge
 Scott Estridge
 Sonia Ivy Fuller
 Janis Kaye Hinchcliff
 Stephanie Hunt
 Erin Lange
 Tally Loper
 Pamela Martin
 Dylan Zachary Noble
 Lisa Olivero
 Heater Pirowski
 Erin Randolph-Pupurs
 Gary Pupurs
 Gregory A. Purvis
 Mulalo Rikhotso
 Amanda R. Slonaker
 Deetta Steinmetz
 Mani Subramaniam
 Alexandre Jacques Vitat
 Joe Weingarten

Jackson Township (vote for 6)

Dorcia Bradley
 John Bradley
 Donald E. Stumpp
 Noblesville Township (vote for 20)
 Jennifer Bishop
 Kathleen A. Boyle
 Michelle Clarke
 Chad Eric Downey
 Diane E. Evans
 Sarah Elizabeth Fix
 James Foote
 Paula Jo Gilliam
 Lori C. Hand
 Christopher Hartig

Micha J Huber
 Riley Issacs
 Brian S. Jonasen
 Sandra Kaufman Jonasen
 Coumba Kebe
 Debra Marcum
 Joseph Marcum
 Douglas May
 Jennifer Midkiff
 Mary Jo Moyer
 Jeffrey Nickloy
 Melissa S Nordhoff
 Tricia Owens
 Christian Renner
 David S. Resler II
 Julia Ann Resler
 Michele A. Tharp-Taylor
 Roger W. Tharp-Taylor
 Meili Van Hull
 Jessica Garten Vandergraff
 David R. Wellington
 Devon Wellington
 Kevin Miles Wright

Washington Township (vote for 20)

Elizabeth H. Anderson
 Joshua Andrews
 Melissa Auciello-Brogan
 Cheryl L. Austin
 Nicholas Harrison Bayh
 Racheal Bleicher
 Bennie Britt
 Rhonda Ann Cardwell
 Amy M. Christmas
 Stacy Collins
 Emily M. Cook
 Mary Ellen Cooper
 Alyssa Crawford-Paree
 Gabriel Crawford-Paree
 Evelyn J. Davis
 Brandee L. Easterday
 Jamie Flemington
 Natalie K. Fonte
 David M. Garcia
 Philip E. Gidley
 Kathleen Hartman
 Robert (Bob) Hewitt
 James Hiatt
 Gabriel Hohnke
 Kirk King
 Karen Klutzke
 Jennifer Ann Koculowski
 Xavier Lewis
 Alexis A. Lowry
 Mary P. Milewski
 Charles Casey Miller-Bock
 Hayley Morgan
 Naomi Penney
 Kim Qian
 Vicki Semler
 Amy J. Stewart
 Nicholas Joseph Tomaszewski
 Lisa M. Walters
 Tracy M. Wheeler
 Kirk B. Young

Wayne Township (vote for 10)

Joey Baertschi
 Justin Canady-Flatt
 Nocona Canady-Flatt
 Jeannette Champion
 Cymande Mandie Edwards
 Sherri Elder
 Mary Frischkorn-Meza
 Dylan R. Lechleider
 Ellen Ogle

White River Township (vote for 2)

Kat Wilson

STATE DELEGATE – REPUBLICANS

Adams/Wayne (vote for 5)

John Beaman
 Daniel A. Bragg
 Fredrick Fritz Good
 Garrett M. Gossard
 Ginger Higginbotham
 Joshua Pascoe
 Tiffany Pascoe
 Jordan A. Wood

Clay 1 (vote for 5)

Madolyn Augustus
 Gary Duncan
 Fred Glynn

Clay 2 (vote for 5)

Timothy M. Hensel
 Kenneth L. Jacoby
 Danny Niederberger

Clay 3 (vote for 5)

Paul Arbouw
 Robert W. Bowser III
 Thomas P. Dakich
 Andrew Flittner
 Stephanie Flittner

Frederick Daniel Landis III

Edison Gene Perry

Clay 3 (vote for 5)

Jenny Brake
 Patricia Bratton
 Robin Clark
 Lisa Elmore
 Diane Frantz
 Diane Gomez
 Josh Kocher
 Marueen Morgan
 Roxy Morgan
 Camille Svihlik
 Charles Svihlik
 Rich Taylor

Clay 4 (vote for 5)

Rob Brown
 Raju Chinthala
 Matthew R. Elliott
 Sue Lile
 Carl Mills
 Michelle W. Murphy
 Mike Shaver

Alexander Lawrence Spanenberg

Jerry Torr
 Cynde Vits

Delaware 1 (vote for 5)

Kumiko Brunson
 Rick Fain
 Paul G. Nix
 Gregg Puls
 Matthew S. Rollins
 Gaven Schulz

Delaware 2 (vote for 5)

Bric Walker Butler
 David Giffel
 Wayne Nicodemus
 Jennie J. Nicol

Fall Creek 1 (vote for 5)

Tiffanie Ditlevson
 Diane Eaton
 Dawn Lang
 Angela Morris
 Rachel Quade
 Shelley Triol

Fall Creek 2 (vote for 5)

Jackson Massillamany
 Mario Massillamany
 Kevin W. Poore
 Patricia (Trish) Poteet
 Nathan Reitenour
 Anthony Simons
 Alyssa Simons
 Evan Woodruff

Fall Creek 3 (vote for 5)

Doug Allman
 Shelly Allman
 Pete Peterson

Jackson/White River (vote for 5)

Grant Achenbach
 Ray Adler
 Emily Bundy-Pearson
 Max Engling
 Julie Melvin

Theodore (Ted) Melvin
 Chad A. Phifer
 Jamie Rulon
 Keith A. Troutman
 Paula V. Trowbridge
 Terrance L. Trowbridge

Noblesville 1 (vote for 5)

Trini Beaver
 Robert (Robby) Beecher
 Kevin Custis
 Randy Gerber
 Kimberly A. Irvin
 Darren Peterson
 Karen Williams Pryor
 Adrienne Rogers
 Alaina Shonkwiler
 Martin Strother

Noblesville 2 (vote for 5)

Tim Berry
 Tim Cortrecht
 Mike Davis
 Lisa D. Hall
 Mark F. Hall

Noblesville 3 (vote for 5)

Laura Alerding
 Scott A. Baldwin
 Susan Beckwith
 Ashley Jasinski
 Christopher Jensen
 Graham Loughead
 Stu Rhodes
 Beth Sheller
 Emily Daniels Spaulding

Washington 1 (vote for 5)

Marla Ailor
 William Dale
 Ashton Eller
 Timothy Enyart
 Mike Neal
 Kate Healey Snedeker

Washington 2 (vote for 5)

Matt Dooley
 Richard (Rich) J. Hardcastle Jr.
 Carrie Gillis
 Caleb Herne
 Daniel Houk

Washington 3 (vote for 5)

Jim Ake
 McKenzie Barbknecht
 Nick Barbknecht
 Lisa Marie Everling Baumgartner
 Sydnee Cseresznyes
 Ron Mangus
 Nathan Nicholson

Sheridan High School Student Council shares love of reading

On Friday, Feb. 13, members of the Sheridan High School Student Council shared their love of reading and Valentine's Day with first graders at Sheridan Elementary through "I Heart Reading." These leading students showed off their pride for all things Sheridan as they read aloud to the young learners. SHS sophomores Addie McCardia, Grace Pratt, and Izzy Delgado said, "I Heart Reading is a good opportunity for everyone because it is always fun for the kids, but it also helps teach them that reading can be fun!" (Photos provided by Sheridan Community Schools)



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You can make positive changes for a happy heart

"I've been tryin' to get down to the heart of the matter / But my will gets weak and my thoughts seem to scatter" – Don Henley



SHARON McMAHON
Be Well

Please do not panic, dear readers; I realize I used this same quote in last week's column! Obviously I know that it is still "heart health month" hence the quote above, which to my mind reflects the attitude of many when it comes to facing some sobering statistics regarding heart health.

Fueled by ongoing increases in high blood pressure, obesity, and other major risk factors, heart disease continues to kill more people in the U.S. than any other cause, according to the American Heart Association's 2025 Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics Update, and about 44 percent of women in the United States have some form of heart disease.

Well, sorry, but let's move along to some positive and significant ways in which we can make our hearts happy! In my last column we focused on dietary changes which can make a big difference in your heart health. Those included eating more produce and drinking healthy sources of water, as well as omitting junk food and

processed meats. So let's get going on some other lifestyle changes which can offer you more protection for your heart.

Do you need to hit the gym? Not necessarily. Obviously, the gym will provide you with equipment to tone and strengthen your muscles, increase your cardio workout, and perhaps offer some motivation. However, you can utilize your living space, your yard, or a neighborhood walking path to a great degree and great results!

In a 2025 study of older adults published in *Medicine & Science in Sports and Exercise*, exercising earlier in the day was associated with better cardiorespiratory fitness – how well your circulatory and respiratory systems supply oxygen to your muscles. It is recommended that 150 minutes per week of moderately intense aerobic activity (brisk walk) or 75 minutes of vigorous activity (running), adding in resistance training at least two days per week can help heart health.¹

Incorporating yoga or a flexibility routine is also important for your coordination. Walking is the one thing that is free and accessible for most of us, and it only takes about 15 minutes. A 2025 study in

the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* found that taking walks at a brisk pace for 15 minutes reduces risks of dying prematurely from any cause, including cardiovascular disease, by 20 percent, compared with a 4 percent risk reduction from long, slow walks.

My prescription? No prescription but a strong suggestion ... just move! Most of us spend far too much time sitting. Get up often, every hour if possible – even if it is just to take a few steps before sitting back down. Everything you do to break up those sitting sessions is very, very important and can help manage your blood pressure.²

Finally, think about your breathing, and slow it down! Breathe from your lower belly and exercise those brain cells with increased oxygen! *And – always – discuss with your physician before beginning any exercise program or plan.*

¹ American Heart Association

² Smadar Kort, MD, Co-director of the Valve Center at Stony Brook Heart Institute, Long Island, New York

Sharon McMahon, CNWC
The opinions expressed in this article are not intended to replace advice of your personal physician or licensed health professional. Please consult your physician for any issues you may have related to nutrition or fitness activity.

Baggage isn't memorable, but it's the comfort food of theater

By LARRY ADAMS
A Seat on the Aisle

"Dammit! This play is going to end happily! I knew it!"

There's a term that's entered the popular vernacular, especially since the age of streaming: "comfort television." It refers to shows that are generally light, predictable, enjoyable, and relaxing without requiring a whole lot of cognitive effort on the part of the viewer. Sure, we all recognize the artistic and societal value of more challenging pieces – where would the Emmys be without them, after all – but sometimes, after a busy day with the kids or a hectic week at work or school, you just want to kick back with a bag of Oreos, turn your brain off and be entertained. Maybe even more than sometimes.

The same is true for theater, I think. Most of us who have trod the boards or sweated behind the scenes would, of course, like to think we were part of something "important;" but often it's important just to give your audience a break from life and a smile as they leave the theater.

That's where *Baggage*, the current offering of Lebanon's Center Stage Community Theatre, comes in. In an entertainment world seemingly intent on "subverting expectations" or hitting you repeatedly over the head with "The Message" (as one reviewer puts it) at every opportunity, *Baggage* is content with knowing exactly what you expect and



Photo by Rob Slaven / IndyGhostLight.com
Mark Livingston and Lauren Johnson as Bradley Naughton and Phyllis Novak.

want in a simple love story- and then giving it to you. Novel concept.

It's not subtle. The basic premise of the show cranks the predictability factor up to 11: two preposterously mismatched people, Phyllis Novak (played by Lauren Johnson) and Bradley Naughton (played by Mark Livingston), meet cute due to the thinnest of plot contrivances, initially can't stand each other, but then ... well, you know the rest. Cue the music, take a bow, drop the curtain.

But not so fast! Playwright Sam Bobrick throws a beautifully comedic and meta curve into the formulaic mix in the form of smarmy psychologist Dr. Jonathon Alexander (played by David Shaul in his second CSCT appearance), who right up front breaks the fourth wall with the audience and cops to the whole thing: This is what's going to happen – you know it, we know it, so just

sit back and enjoy the ride. (Well, the good doctor isn't really quite on board with enjoying it, but clearly the playwright is winking at us from behind this character the whole run of the show.) Throw in Mitzi Cartwright (as portrayed by Amy Keitt, also a Center Stage two-timer), Phyllis's thrice-divorced, looking-for-love, kooky sidekick friend (and yeah, we all know where THAT'S going, too) as well as a healthy lack of weighty issues or existential angst, and you've got all the makings for Comfort Theater with a capital "C." And you know what? It works. Really well.

And why wouldn't it? Director Veronique Duprey has put together a stellar cast who display a natural and seemingly effortless chemistry at all times on the stage. Though falling prey just a tad to some overacting in the initial moments of

See *Baggage* ... Page 8

Northern GOP gears up for election season



Reporter photos

The Northern Hamilton County GOP Club welcomed 55 members of the public to its first meeting of the year on Monday, Feb. 23 at Red Bridge Park. Speakers included Joe Cox (above left), current president of the Cicero Town Council, and Andre Maue (above right), one of six candidates for three spots on the Jackson Township Board. Thank you to everyone who attended.

Applications open now for Songbook Academy

Discover the gold standard in vocal storytelling

The REPORTER

Spread the word ... applications for the 2026 Songbook Academy are now open.

Now in its 17th year, the Songbook Academy is the premier education program of the Great American Songbook Foundation. This eight-day summer intensive, to be held July 11 to 18 at Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel, brings together 40 talented high school vocalists to hone their vocal and performance skills through personal mentorship from award-winning Broadway and recording industry stars, leading university faculty and respected



Photo provided

arts professionals.

Now is the perfect time to apply for the 2026 Songbook Academy.

- Application deadline: March 22
- Early application savings: \$30 off if submitted by Feb. 28
- Personalized feedback is provided to every applicant

Share this opportunity with the young singers in your life and encourage them to apply today. Learn more at thesongbook.org/songbookacademy.
The Songbook Academy is made possible in part through the generous support of Traditions Senior Communities.

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BAGGAGE

from Page 7

an adrenaline-fueled, opening night performance, the actors quickly settled down into the tricky yet wonderful balance of comedy and believability upon which a show such as this lives or dies. Livingston in particular shines as the weepy IRS lawyer who finds love without looking for it, infusing his character with a remarkable authenticity in both the laughter and the tears.

The pacing and timing, essential to any show but particularly a comedy, are spot-on, the set and lighting add to the ambiance without drawing undue attention – even the preshow and intermission music choices, often overlooked, show an attention to detail that an audience can't help but appreciate, if perhaps only on a subconscious level.

The show is indeed executed nearly flawlessly by

a talented Center Stage cast and crew. But in the end, *Baggage* succeeds primarily because it's honest with itself and with its audience. It is a romcom without apology or pretensions. It's sweet. It's charming. It's comfortable. A year from now, you'll likely not be able to call up any memorable zingers from the evening – or even much of its paint-by-numbers plot. But you'll remember the warm feeling you had when you left the theater. You'll remember the charm. And these days, that by itself is worth the price of admission.

Baggage continues through March 8 at Center Stage's theatre in Lebanon. You may call (765) 894-5587 for reservations and information. Their website is CenterStageTheatre.org.

Read more great play reviews from *A Seat on the Aisle* at asota.wordpress.com.

Garcia Wilburn's bill to keep kids in DCS safe heads to governor's desk

Submitted by Office of State Rep. Victoria Garcia Wilburn

Last Thursday, Feb. 19, **House Bill 1036** cleared its final steps in the Indiana General Assembly and is headed to the governor's desk to be signed into law.

Authored by State Rep. Victoria Garcia Wilburn (D-Fishers), the legislation requires Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) caseworkers to see a child in person within 30 days before a case closure or discharge.

This legislation was drafted in response to tragedies like the **death of Kinsleigh Welty**, a five-year-old who died of starvation, and is aimed at ensuring children are safe before investigations and cases by DCS are closed.

Garcia Wilburn issued the following statement after the Indiana House of Representatives' unanimous concurrence with a minor Senate amendment to the bill:



Photo provided

State Rep. Garcia Wilburn signs the final version of her bill. It now awaits Governor Braun's signature.

"The safety of our children is non-negotiable. House Bill 1036 is a crucial step to ensure each child is prioritized individually. It is my hope that requiring an in-person visit by a DCS caseworker before a case closure will help avoid tragedies of neglect like the

story of five-year-old Kinsleigh Welty.

"I am beyond grateful for the overwhelming support on this legislation. I want to thank my co-authors Reps. Alex Burton, Lori Goss-Reaves and Julie McGuire for their work on this bill, and I want to

thank the House and Senate for their unanimous support. Together, we can continue to pursue policy that protects the health and safety of all Hoosier children. I am hopeful Gov. Braun will sign this legislation and get this bill across the finish line."

Braun, Rokita & state legislators working to protect Hoosier highways from illegal immigrants with CDLs

Submitted by Office of Gov. Mike Braun

Indiana Governor Mike Braun joined Attorney General Todd Rokita and State Representative Jim Pressel (R-Rolling Prairie) to take on the dangerous upsurge of illegal aliens with Commercial Drivers' Licenses (CDLs) driving large commercial trucks on Hoosier roads and highways.

State Senator Michael Crider (R-Greenfield) is offering the Senate amendment to House Bill 1200.

Recent cases of illegal aliens driving commercial vehicles involved in fatal crashes has brought attention to this issue. In the last month alone, Indiana has experienced multiple fatal crashes caused by illegal immigrants with CDLs driving massive commercial trucks.

Last Fall, Gov. Braun joined DHS Secretary Kristi Noem to announce Operation Midway Blitz, a successful 287(g) operation with Indiana State Police that resulted in the arrest of 223 illegal aliens on Indiana highways near the Illinois state line, including 146 truck drivers.

Additionally, Gov. Braun recently completed an audit of Indiana's non-domiciled CDLs with the Federal Motor Carriers Association (FMCA) and as a result, the state is already in the process of removing hundreds of illegally



Braun



Rokita

licensed drivers from the road.

Gov. Braun, AG Rokita, and Rep. Pressel collaborated on a first of its kind amendment that will strengthen the process for CDL licensing and enable the state to remove CDLs from illegal immigrants. In addition, the amendment will create new penalties to crack down on non-licensed drivers and the companies that employ them.

"As the Crossroads of America, Indiana must do all we can to ensure our roads are safe," Gov. Braun said. "In addition to strengthening our CDL

licensing process, Indiana will revoke the CDLs of drivers who are illegal immigrants and penalize companies who employ them. Through strong enforcement we will keep our roads and highways safe."

"We've seen horrible accidents on our roads – terrible tragedies that ended in fatalities – all caused by illegal aliens driving commercial vehicles they had no business operating," AG Rokita said. "Although the state already has the power to revoke a license for a public safety risk, we have worked directly with legislators and the governor on proposed statutory language to make license revocation mandatory in cases of illegal aliens, since the federal government has already determined these aliens pose serious public safety risks."

Sen. Banks calls for investigation into illegal alien trucking networks in Indiana

Submitted by Office of U.S. Senator Jim Banks

On Monday, Feb. 23, U.S. Senator Jim Banks (R-Ind.) sent a letter to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Administrator Derek Barrs for an immediate investigation into potential "chameleon carrier" trucking networks operating in Indiana.

This follows the recent death of 64-year-old Terry Schultz, who was killed in a fatal collision in Hendricks County involving a semi-truck driven by an illegal alien from India. It also comes after a separate crash in Jay County earlier this month, in which an illegal alien from Kyrgyzstan killed four Indiana men in a semi-truck collision.

Banks' letter appears in full below.

Dear Administrator Barrs:

I urge you to investigate potential chameleon carrier trucking networks operating in Indiana. Last week, Terry Schultz became the latest Hoosier to lose his

life to a driver who never should have been in the country or gotten behind the wheel of a semitruck. Mr. Schultz died after being struck by a semitruck driven by an Indian national who reportedly crossed the southern border illegally and received trucking licenses from New York and Indiana.

Mr. Schultz's death is not bad luck, and it is not just another accident. Seven Hoosiers have been killed in six months by illegal alien truck drivers. This is a national crisis.

I am especially concerned that Indiana may be a hotspot for so-called chameleon carriers. Since launching a tipline for truckers to report carriers engaging in unlawful practices last week, I have received data on trucking carriers operating in Indiana. Nearly 10,000 Indiana-based trucking



Banks

companies have registered in the U.S. Department of Transportation database in the last six years. Over 2,000 carriers have been registered under the same two surnames.

One suburb of Indianapolis, Greenwood, contains 1,000 newly-registered trucking carriers. Over 300 carriers are active in the University Park neighborhood, which has a population of about 600 people in roughly 250 homes. That's over one carrier for each house. The carrier reportedly involved in last night's accident was incorporated from a Greenwood address that is the principal place of business for six other carriers.

Greenwood is not the only possible hotspot. Last night's crash took place less than seven miles away from a cul-de-sac in Avon with sixteen carriers. In Fishers, there are ten registrations

on the same neighborhood street.

Doubtless, trucking clusters by themselves do not constitute illegality. Some carriers may well be operating within the boundaries of the law. But chameleon carriers operate through numbers, and the sheer volume of registered companies within neighborhoods and at single addresses suggests that Indiana communities may be functioning as hotbeds for illegal carriers.

Whatever is going on with Indiana's trucking clusters, it is killing Hoosiers. I cannot stand by and watch as more of my constituents are put in harm's way by drivers who should never have received a license in the first place. I urge you to use every tool at FMCSA's disposal to investigate potential chameleon carriers and put violators out of service permanently.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and for all you are doing to make America great again.

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Thanks for reading
The Reporter!

Dale Duane Unger

July 18, 1938 – February 22, 2026



Dale Duane Unger, 87, Noblesville, passed away on February 22, 2026. He was born on July 18, 1938, in Noblesville to Russell Unger and Aletha Ponsler Unger. Dale was a lifelong resident of the Noblesville area and a proud graduate of Noblesville High School, Class of 1958. Following high school, he served his country honorably in the United States Army Reserves.



Dale spent his working life as a skilled finish carpenter and was widely known for his craftsmanship, earning the nickname "Door Doc" for his expertise and attention to detail. His talent with wood extended beyond his profession, as woodworking was one of his greatest joys. He also enjoyed following NASCAR and, above all, spending time with his family.

Dale was a former member of the Noblesville Jaycees and an active member of the Noblesville Lions Club and the Noblesville Preservation Alliance, reflecting his deep commitment to his community and its history.

He is survived by his fiancée, Jackie Stevens; his children, Brian Scott Unger of Astor, Fla., Mike Unger of Noblesville, Heidi Unger of Indianapolis, and Heather Unger of Indianapolis; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; his sisters, Anita Unger Flinchum of Noblesville and Suetta Unger Stokes of Atlanta, Ind.; and several nieces and nephews.

Dale was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Joe Tansy; his first wife, Martha Walton; and his second wife, Margaret Devaney.

Visitation will be held from noon to 2 p.m. Friday, February 27 at Randall & Roberts Funeral Home, 1150 Logan St., Noblesville. Funeral services will follow at 2 p.m. at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Noblesville Lions Club, 1800 E. Conner St., Noblesville, IN 46060; or the Noblesville Preservation Alliance, 1274 Logan St., Noblesville, IN 46060 (noblesvillepreservation.org/donate).

Dale will be remembered for his craftsmanship, his generosity of spirit, his love of family, and his lifelong dedication to the Noblesville community.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Betty Ruth Ellison

March 11, 1946 – February 19, 2026



Betty Ruth Ellison, 79, Fishers, passed away on Thursday, February 19, 2026, at home with family. She was born on March 11, 1946, to Lee and Ruth (Rhoades) Wiperman in Logansport, Ind.

Betty worked 20 years in manufacturing and several years at Taco Bell; she enjoyed interacting with the customers. She enjoyed reading, crocheting, and cooking. Betty loved nature and being outdoors gardening, fishing,

and camping.

She is survived by her daughter, Lynn (Scott) Spillman; daughter-in-law, Nanchu Ellison; sisters, Eva (Chuck) Woodhouse and Alberta (Devon) Moore; grandchildren, Amanda (Ben) Crippen, Mykala (Destiny) Spillman, and Cole Spillman; and her great-grandson, Theodore Jaemin Crippen.

In addition to her parents, Betty was preceded in death by her husband, Stanley William Ellison; and her son, Keith William Ellison.

Visitation will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, February 26, 2026, at Randall & Roberts Fishers Mortuary, 12010 Allisonville Road, Fishers.

In lieu of cut flowers, the family would prefer plants and flower bulbs.

Memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimer's Association, 50 E. 91st St., Suite 100, Indianapolis, IN 46240 (alz.org/indiana); or Dementia Society of America, P.O. Box 600, Doylestown, PA 18901 (dementiasociety.org).

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Phyllis Gail DiAngelo

January 19, 1936 – February 9, 2026



Phyllis Gail DiAngelo, a cherished figure, passed away peacefully on February 9, 2026. She led a life filled with love devotion and resilience.

She leaves behind her loving daughter, Amy Gail Merritt, and her son, John Spencer Dyson.

Her departure has left an irreplaceable void. Her life epitomized grace, and her legacy continues to inspire those who knew her. We honor her memory and celebrate the extraordinary life she lived. She was truly special, and she will be loved and remembered always.

Dr. Mathew Joseph Rose

October 20, 1980 – February 19, 2026



Dr. Mathew Joseph Rose, 45, Noblesville, passed away on February 19, 2026.

Born on October 20, 1980, in North Canton, Ohio, to Marilyn (Boyle) and Edward Rose, Mathew was a proud graduate of Hoover High School and Miami University. He was the Class President at Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine, later served as Chief Resident in the Emergency Department at Akron General Medical Center, and was awarded Resident of the Year. A steady and attentive physician, he cared for patients and peers at Carolina East Medical Center, Indiana University Health, and Anthem. He was deeply respected by his colleagues but truly believed it was his honor to serve alongside such dedicated teams.

Grounded in his trust in Jesus, Mathew lived with a servant's heart – offering his time, strengths, and attention wherever there was need. He listened, asked about others, and quietly stepped in to help. His life was marked not by recognition, but by devotion.

Above all, he cherished his family. He was the beloved husband of Michelle (Fogelson) Rose, loving her with intention and gratitude. He honored their 20 years of marriage deeply, and loved the life they built full of laughter, shared purpose, and steadfast partnership.

Mathew was an engaged and joyful father to Benjamin, Hudson, Clark, and Elizabeth. Nothing brought him greater happiness than being with them or hearing about their day. He coached sports, led Scouts, worked side-by-side on projects, danced on stages, attended field trips, and never missed a chance for a well-timed dad joke. He was always fully present-offering guidance, encouragement, and his whole heart each day.

He is survived by his parents; by his sisters, Karol Bibighaus (Rich), Katy Neff (Rob), and Shari Milnes (George), and their children; by his mother-in-law, Elizabeth Fogelson; and by his brother-in-law, Todd Fogelson (Kelly), and their children, Tyler and Haley.

Services will be held Saturday, February 28, 2026, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Home, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville. The service will begin promptly at 11 a.m. Guests are invited to remain after the service to share time with the family. A graveside service will follow at 1:30 p.m. at Hamilton Memorial Park, 4180 Westfield Road, Westfield.

In lieu of flowers and in response to the kindness and generosity so many have expressed, contributions may be made to the children's college 529 savings plan at go.fidelity.com/92pcyz or by clicking the QR code; or to the charity of your choice.

Condolences: randallroberts.com



TODAY'S BIBLE READING

SUPPLEMENTARY OFFERINGS

The Lord said to Moses, "Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'After you enter the land I am giving you as a home and you present to the Lord food offerings from the herd or the flock, as an aroma pleasing to the Lord—whether burnt offerings or sacrifices, for special vows or freewill offerings or festival offerings—then the person who brings an offering shall present to the Lord a grain offering of a tenth of an ephah of the finest flour mixed with a quarter of a hin of olive oil. With each lamb for the burnt offering or the sacrifice, prepare a quarter of a hin of wine as a drink offering.

"With a ram prepare a grain offering of two-tenths of an ephah of the finest flour mixed with a third of a hin of olive oil, and a third of a hin of wine as a drink offering. Offer it as an aroma pleasing to the Lord.

"When you prepare a young bull as a burnt offering or sacrifice, for a special vow or a fellowship offering to the Lord, bring with the bull a grain offering of three-tenths of an ephah of the finest flour mixed with half a hin of olive oil, and also bring half a hin of wine as a drink offering. This will be a food offering, an aroma pleasing to the Lord. Each bull or ram, each lamb or young goat, is to be prepared in this manner. Do this for each one, for as many as you prepare.

Numbers 15:1-12 (NIV)

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The Reporter's policy on obituaries

The Hamilton County Reporter does not charge families for publishing obituary notices on our pages. Every obituary appearing in online editions Wednesday through Saturday also appears in our Monday print editions. In order to continue to offer this as a community service, we ask that obituaries not exceed 500 words. The limitations of space may not allow for longer ones to appear in print.

Submit obituaries under 500 words online at ReadTheReporter.com/obitform.

Meeting Notices

The Carmel Clay Schools Board of Trustees will meet at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2026, at the Carmel Clay Schools Educational Services Center, 5201 E. Main St.

The Westfield Advisory Plan Commission will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 16, 2026, at Westfield City Hall, 130 Penn St.

The Noblesville Redevelopment Authority will meet at 9 a.m. Monday, March 16, 2026, in the Council Chamber at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St.

A list of each appointed officer's name, their appointing authority, and term dates is available at noblesville.in.gov/447/Boards-Commissions.

A live stream of the meeting will be available on the city's YouTube page at youtube.com/@CityofNoblesville.

Thanks for reading!

Each year, the Hamilton County Reporter requests government entities to notify us of public meetings as their Open Door Law notification under I.C. 5-14-1.5-5. The Reporter publishes these notices as a public service in our Tuesday through Friday digital editions. Meeting notices for Open Door Law compliance can be sent to PublicNotices@ReadTheReporter.com.

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This immaculate ranch in Carmel boasts hardwood floors, crown molding, a stone fireplace, and a relaxing sunroom. It sits on .37 acres, a four-minute walk to Woodbrook Elementary. Spotless basement and garage.

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LISTED & PENDING!

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Located in downtown Noblesville, this beautiful 1912 Craftsman perfectly blends historic charm (original trim, staircase) with modern updates, including a remodeled kitchen, finished outbuilding, and fenced yard.

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WESTFIELD

This 4BR/2.5BA home with a 3-car garage offers a covered front porch overlooking a pond. Flexible living spaces, a 2-story great room with fireplace, and a spacious kitchen. Primary bedroom features a spa-like bath.

Improved Price \$479,900

SOLD!

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REPORTER SPORTS WEDNESDAY

Sports Editor Richie Hall | Sports@ReadTheReporter.com | Twitter @Richie_Hall

CARMEL, FISHERS, GUERIN CATHOLIC, HAMILTON HEIGHTS, HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN, NOBLESVILLE, SHERIDAN, UNIVERSITY, WESTFIELD

Boys Wrestling State Championship

History Made: Maddox seizes Rocks' first wrestling state title

By **RICHARD TORRES**
For The Reporter

INDIANAPOLIS – The celebratory backflip was ad-libbed, but the hug wasn't.

Shortly after Westfield's Connor Maddox had his arm raised in triumph inside Gainbridge Fieldhouse as the undefeated 106-pound state champion, the sophomore decided to take flight.

Once he stuck his impromptu backflip landing, Westfield's first-ever individual wrestling state champion beelined to the corner of the mat, and he found himself weightless once again.

Embraced by his coach and father, Scott, it was the first thing Maddox thought about once he left the mat a perfect 34-0 following a dominant display at the 88th annual IHSAA wrestling state finals on Saturday, Feb. 21.

With his feet dangling and his father's green blazer sleeves wrapped around him, the mission was complete.

No more disappointment like the year prior. Just sweet victory.

"It feels great. I'm just

super grateful. It's not every day you get an experience like this," Maddox said. "I'm just grateful and so incredibly humbled to be a part of something like this."

Maddox's flawless run was inspired by defeat – two to be exact.

Both occurred at the same venue and forced him to settle for a fourth-place medal at 106 as a freshman with a 40-3 record.

The first was in the state semifinals against eventual 2025 state champion Traevon Ducking of Brownsburg by decision 11-4. The next was in the consolation finals against Avon's Case Bridge in sudden-victory overtime, 4-1.

Neither loss left Maddox. Instead, they fueled the top-ranked wrestler's desire to return and conquer.

"Every day of the summer, just thinking about that, those two heartbreaking losses here last year," Maddox said. "I didn't want to ever experience that again. I just made sure I was ready to go this time and wasn't going to go through that again."

See Title . . . Page 11



Photo by Justin Sicking

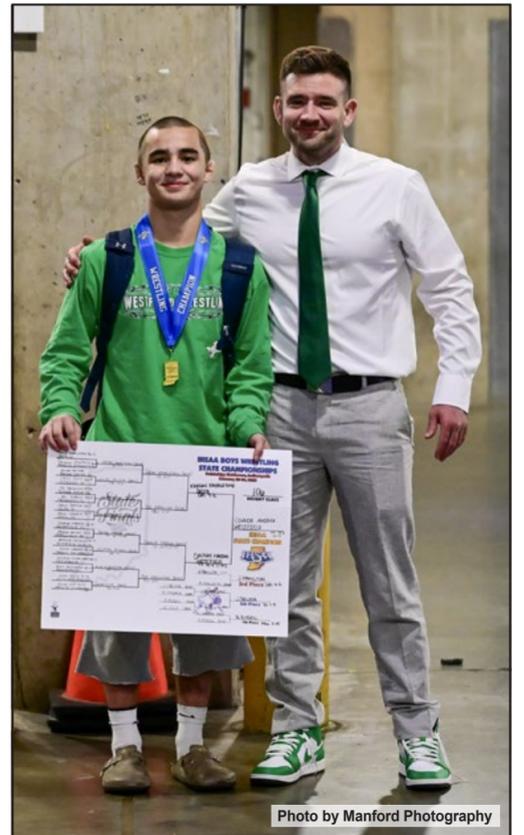


Photo by Manford Photography

(ABOVE LEFT) Connor Maddox raises his first after winning the 106-pound championship match. (ABOVE RIGHT) Westfield's Connor Maddox completed an undefeated season at 106 pounds by dominating at the IHSAA state finals on Saturday, Feb. 21. Maddox is pictured with Shamrocks coach Tom Griffin.

County trio secure medals at wrestling state

By **RICHARD TORRES**
For The Reporter

INDIANAPOLIS – The weekend did not end exactly how they envisioned, but a trio of Hamilton County wrestlers were rightfully rewarded for their efforts inside Gainbridge Fieldhouse in downtown Indianapolis.

On Saturday, Feb. 21, Noblesville junior Aidan Kincaide became the highest state-placer in program history since 1992 by finishing second at 165 pounds during the 88th annual IHSAA wrestling state finals.

Fishers senior Julian Burgett placed third at 215, while Hamilton Southeastern freshman Nolan Culp took home a sixth-place medal at 106.

All three wrestlers advanced into the two-day tournament's medal rounds after winning their respective elimination-round matches on Friday, Feb. 20, ensuring a top-eight place-



(ABOVE LEFT) Noblesville's Aidan Kincaide finished second at 165 pounds at the IHSAA state finals on Saturday, Feb. 21. Kincaide's was the best state placement for the Millers since 1992.



(ABOVE CENTER) Fishers' Julian Burgett placed third at 215 pounds.



(ABOVE RIGHT) Hamilton Southeastern's Nolan Culp took sixth at 106 pounds.

Photos by Manford Photography

ment in the state.

For Kincaide (37-1), who was ranked third in the state by Indianamat, his runner-up finale marked his second-career state medal after placing fourth at 157 in 2024 as a freshman.

The two-time state qual-

ifier missed last season due to a fractured back, but in 2025-26, Kincaide made up for lost time.

Through his postseason run, Kincaide logged 10 consecutive pins to win sectional, regional and semi-state titles in addition to

reaching the medal rounds. Kincaide opened the state finals with a fall in 1:24 before a 16-0 technical fall in 3:46 pushed him into the semifinals.

A 4-2 decision against second-ranked senior Brant Beck of Rochester moved

him into the championship final where he lost to top-ranked sophomore and two-time state champion Matthew Staples (39-0) of New Prairie by technical fall 19-3 (4:08).

"He's a trailblazer in this program. When he was in

second grade, he told me he was going to be my first-ever state qualifier. He's said he's going to be my first-ever state champion. Well, you got to get to the final before you have an opportunity,

See Trio . . . Page 11

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Let's Talk




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THIS MONTH IN REAL ESTATE

CENTRAL INDIANA STATISTICS FROM THE 16-COUNTY REGION

CURRENT REAL ESTATE MARKET

"Despite a cool residential real estate market in January in central Indiana, inventory continued to rise," said Jim Litten, F.C. Tucker Company Chairman of the Board and CEO. "With mortgage interest rates significantly lower than this time last year, we're optimistic that with spring approaching, the market will begin to heat up."

January 2026 Median Sale Price \$296,500 compared to this time last year	Sales Change January pending home sales compared to this time last year 0.0%	995 More Homes For Sale 1/25 vs. 1/26
2.3% Price Increase 1/25 vs. 1/26	Months of Inventory Change 21.9% 1/25 vs. 1/26	Interest Rates 30-Year Fixed 6.0% With an APR of 6.147%

TOP COUNTIES

Madison Sales Up 21.5%
Boone Sales Up 13.5%
Hancock Sales Up 12.7%

Data compiled 01.06.26 from MIBOR BLC*

FAIR HOUSING CASES

Total-4
Rental-4
Sales-0
Other-0

Fair Housing Awareness

*In order to provide a more reliable measurement of sales price, beginning with January, 2025, we will report the median sales price instead of average sales price.

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Coming up in The Reporter . . .

Read about Tuesday's boys basketball games in our Thursday edition.

A new basketball league is coming to Hamilton County. Read all about it in our Thursday edition.

SPORTS SCHEDULE**Thursday, Feb. 26****BOYS BASKETBALL**

Indiana Math & Science at University, 7:30 p.m.
Traders Point Christian at Sheridan, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 27**BOYS SWIMMING**

State prelims, 6 p.m. at IU Natatorium

GYMNASTICS SECTIONALS

Noblesville at The Gymnastics Company, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 28**GYMNASTICS SECTIONALS**

Westfield at Harrison, 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 3**BOYS BASKETBALL****Sectional 8 at Noblesville**

Noblesville vs. Zionsville, 6 p.m.

Westfield vs. Hamilton Southeastern, 7:45 p.m.

Sectional 24 at New Castle

Jay County vs. Yorktown, 6 p.m.

New Castle vs. Hamilton Heights, 7:30 p.m.

Sectional 25 at Frankfort

Brebeuf Jesuit vs. Tri-West, 7 p.m.

Sectional 38 at Elwood

Tipton vs. Taylor, 6 p.m.

Lapel vs. Frankton, 7:30 p.m.

Sectional 42 at Cardinal Ritter

University vs. Monrovia, 6 p.m.

Cardinal Ritter vs. Riverside, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 4**BOYS BASKETBALL****Sectional 25 at Frankfort**

Danville vs. Crawfordsville, 6 p.m.

Guerin Catholic vs. Frankfort, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, March 6**BOYS BASKETBALL****Sectional 8 at Noblesville**

Carmel vs. Noblesville-Zionsville winner, 6 p.m.

Fishers vs. Westfield-Hamilton Southeastern winner, 7:45 p.m.

Sectional 24 at New Castle

Connersville vs. Jay County-Yorktown winner, 6 p.m.

Delta vs. New Castle-Hamilton Heights winner, 7:30 p.m.

Sectional 25 at Frankfort

Lebanon vs. Tuesday winner, 6 p.m.

Wednesday winners, 7:30 p.m.

Sectional 38 at Elwood

Sheridan vs. Tipton-Taylor winner, 6 p.m.

Elwood vs. Lapel-Frankton winner, 7:30 p.m.

Sectional 42 at Cardinal Ritter

Covenant Christian vs. University-Monrovia winner, 6 p.m.

Park Tudor vs. Cardinal Ritter-Riverside winner, 7:30 p.m.

Please email schedule changes or corrections to sports@readthereporter.com.

Sixth-grade Lady Huskies crowned Invite champions

By LAURIE PRATER

HHMS 6th Grade Girls
Basketball Coach

The sixth-grade Lady Huskies proudly hosted the Husky Invite on Saturday, Feb. 21 and finished the day as Tournament Champions, capping off an incredible season.

The Huskies opened tournament play against Frankton, where their defense set the tone early. The team held Frankton to just 15 points in a dominant performance. Ayva Cherry led the scoring effort with 19 points, while Calista Hite and Kinsley Bowyer each added six points.

In the championship game, the Huskies faced the Tipton Blue Devils. After a long day of competition, the team showed grit and determination, battling through fatigue and working together until the final buzzer. It was truly a total team effort to secure the victory. Ayva Cherry once again led the Huskies with 14 points, and



Photo provided

Hamilton Heights Middle School's sixth-grade girls basketball team captured the 2026 Husky Invite title. The team is pictured with their coaches and their spirit-filled cheer squad. Team members include Amelia Andis, Kinsley Bowyer, Ayva Cherry, Sophia Comer, Emelia Cook, Esmae Dotson, Chiamaka Ebigo, Hallie Engle, Calista Hite, Sydney Hodge, London Maynard, Payton Sisson, Brooke Stuart, Michaela Suarez, and Ella Wilson. Sixth-grade cheerleaders include Kylan Owens, Keira Gerlach, Winter Clear, Lola Fonderoli, Maci Pickett, and Jolie Bradley. Basketball coaching staff include Head Coach Laurie Prater, Assistant Coaches Taylor Catron and Jessica Clinger, Team Manager Maddox Clinger and Cheerleading Coach Sarah Prince.

Michaela Suarez contributed eight points in the championship win.

The Lady Huskies' success would not have been possible without the energy and support of the out-

standing sixth-grade cheerleaders, whose enthusiasm helped power the team throughout the tournament.

With teamwork, determination, and tremendous support from their cheer-

leaders and coaching staff, the Lady Huskies close out the season as Husky Invite Champions. Congratulations to this dedicated group of athletes on a memorable and successful year!

TITLE

Maddox never came close to replication.

On the way to a second straight state appearance, Maddox was untouchable.

At the Frankfort Sectional, a pair of pins in 1:32 and 58 seconds paved the way to a repeat. A trio of pins at the North Montgomery Regional in 1:12, 32 and 35 seconds made it back-to-back titles.

During the New Castle Semi-State, Maddox's postseason pin total reached eight straight at 1:54, 1:22 and 23 seconds. He secured his second-career semi-state title with a 17-1 technical fall in 2:15, a theme he continued at the two-day state finals in downtown Indianapolis.

"He's been special all year. Nothing's really been close. He's been on a mission all year. It's been pretty awesome to watch," Westfield coach Tom Griffin said.

At state, Maddox ran through the bracket with four consecutive tech falls – the most by any wrestler at

state this year – and 10:43 of mat time in total.

"Guys are coming in with a game plan. They're trying to run away and squeeze a little bit, keep the match close, but I know that my offense is better than anybody's defense here," Maddox said. "I just got to keep coming, and they're not going to be able to stop me for a whole six minutes."

None of Maddox's postseason matches went beyond the second period.

"It's impossible to fail when you have the people around me that I do," Maddox said. "It's incredible how everything sort of came together, and how I was able to stay undefeated the whole season, but it's not just me. It's everybody."

It was his father, his family, his teammates, his coaches and his school.

As the fourth state finalist in program history since 2012, Maddox made history, and the significance wasn't lost in his excitement.

from Page 10



Photo by Justin Sicking

Maddox won the championship match with a second-period technical fall. None of his postseason matches went beyond the second period.

Instead, his win eased some of the anguish experienced by state runners-up Lukas Schaeffer (2012), Carson Eldred (2020) and Mihail Platonov (2022).

"It's special, man. Westfield, as much credit as they don't get, they deserve it all," Maddox said. "Westfield is a phenomenal place. I'm incredibly grateful to be a part of something as spe-

cial as Westfield and a part of something as special as that program."

Ranked sixth in the nation by FloWrestling, more backflips could be in Maddox's future.

"He's just a special kid," Griffin said. "The future's bright. His expectations and the level which he competes at brings the entire room up."

TRIO

from Page 10

and we haven't had a state finalist since 1992," Millers coach Michael Weimer said. "He wasn't even born then. It's been a long time."

Noblesville's Jason Chiado (40-1-1) was the last Miller to reach the championship finals 34 years ago. The senior 119-pounder finished second.

"I told him, you're doing things that others now believe that they can do in our program," Weimer said. "Be proud of that. I know the outcome wasn't what he wanted, but you got to get there to give yourself a chance and now you've been there and you felt it. I'm proud of him. The whole community is proud of him."

Burgett (43-4), who was ranked second in the state, advanced out of opening night with a 15-1 major decision and followed that up with a pin in 5:20 during the quarterfinals.

Pitted against top-ranked sophomore and eventual state champion Ceasar Salas (39-2) of Crown Point, Burgett lost by major decision 10-1 before accepting a forfeit in the consolation finals for third.

"Julian's one of those kids that puts a lot of time in. This is definitely hard work that's paid off, and he's a kid that you'll never forget," Fishers coach Cam-

eron Diep said.

Burgett was also a state qualifier as a junior but didn't medal. He's heading to Mercyhurst to continue his wrestling career.

"I started JV my freshman year, and I had a lot of coaches and teammates that pushed me. I didn't really achieve what I wanted last year. I didn't really achieve what I wanted this year, but I'm happy about the progress I made," Burgett said. "In the semis, it just felt like I had nothing to lose. I went after him. I wrestled the best I could."

Culp (29-8) won a high-scoring, 18-16 decision during the elimination round before losing by major decision 14-5 in the quarterfinals.

The first-time state qualifier bounced back with a 2-0 decision in the consolations and battled fourth-ranked junior Julian DeLuna (42-3) of Hanover Central in the fifth-place final. DeLuna beat Culp in a hard-fought, sudden-victory overtime match, 11-8.

Culp was ranked 14th in the state and knocked off the state's 19th- and 15th-ranked wrestlers to exceed outside expectations. Culp is the first freshman wrestler in HSE history to finish in the top eight at state.

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Boys Swimming Sectionals

Carmel wins team sectional, advances 26 to state

Millers, Rocks have multiple state qualifiers

By **RICHIE HALL**
sports@readthereporter.com

CARMEL – How fast the swimming at the Carmel boys sectional on Saturday, Feb. 21?

Two swims qualified for the state meet from the consolation (“B”) final, which is a rarity. Those two swims were part of 45 state-qualifying swims who moved on to this Friday’s state prelims, which take place at the IU Natatorium on Friday, Feb. 27.

The host Greyhounds had the most qualifiers, advancing 26 to state and putting themselves in excellent position to win their 12th consecutive state title. Carmel swept all 12 events, including wins in all three relays and 1-2-3 finishes in five of the individual events, winning the team title with 553 points.

“The boys swam fantastic,” said Greyhounds coach Chris Plumb. An example is Yi Zheng, who powered to first place in the individual medley with a time of 1 minute, 43.60 seconds. Plumb said that is a new team record.

“That sets the tone,” said Plumb. “The guys are going best times. Almost everyone that swam today went a best time.”

At the same time, Carmel wants to go faster at the state prelims. Plumb has said over the years that the state meet is won during the prelims, where the top 16 in each event advance to the Saturday, Feb. 28 state finals.

“You get hyped up and you’re in your home pool and the crowd’s into it, but it’s just a step in the process,” said Plumb.

Zheng also won the breaststroke and was part of Carmel’s winning medley and 400 freestyle relays. Carter Hadley joined Zheng in the quadruple winner club, claiming the 100 free and backstroke along with participating in the medley and 400 free relays.

William Allen was first in the 200 and 500 freestyles; after the latter race, he came back and swam a 50-yard leg in the Greyhounds’ victorious 200 free relay.

Donald Zhao won the 50 free and swam on the medley and 200 free relays, while Jack Street paced the butterfly and was part of the medley relay. Alrik Mansberger won the diving event.

Austin Bruford and Eddy Zhu swam on the 400 free relay, while Lukas Biller and William Lathrop were part of the 200 free relay. Biller was one of the consolation qualifiers, dropping

over 4.5 seconds to finish well under the cut in the “B” heat of the breaststroke.

Twenty-five of Carmel’s swims finished under the state cut time. Biller also received a callback in the 50 free with his time of 21.44 seconds.

Noblesville placed second as a team by scoring 358 points. The Millers advanced all three relays under the cut time and had four more individuals qualify in that manner.

Joshua Naas picked up two cuts in the IM and breaststroke and also swam on Noblesville’s medley and 200 free relays. Drew Setmeyer qualified in the 100 free, as did Jackson Teske in the backstroke.

“I thought we swam great,” said Noblesville coach Jess Preston. “Almost all lifetime best times today.”

Preston said that getting all three relays qualified was one of the Millers’ big goals for the sectional.

“We’ve got seven swims going to Day 3,” said Preston. “We’ll try to get all seven of those swims to advance into Day 4 of the state tournament next Saturday.”

Westfield scored 333 points to place third and qualified 11 swims to the state meet. The Shamrocks got their medley and 400 free relays under the state cut time and had two qualifiers each in the 200 free, IM and 500 free.

Zach Welch earned state cuts in the 200 and 500 freestyles and was part of the 200 and 400 freestyle relays. Griffin Barents Froman also qualified in four events, including the IM, where he dropped over 6 seconds to make the cut time from the consolation heat. Garreth Thomas advanced in the butterfly.

Westfield got a callback for the 200 free relay to make it 11 qualifying swims.

“I thought it was a really great meet,” said Shamrocks coach Darrick Thomas. “We are advancing a lot of swims, I think probably the most we’ve ever had, and multiple kids in multiple events.”

Guerin Catholic placed sixth with 130 points and had one state qualifier. Sam Holl received a callback in the 500 free.

Team scores: Carmel 553, Noblesville 358, Westfield 333, Western 253, Northwestern 176, Guerin Catholic 130, Eastern 127, Maconaquah 107, Kokomo 68, Tipton 56.

200 medley relay (State cut 1:36.83)

“A” Final: 1. Carmel (Carter Hadley, Yi Zheng, Jack Street, Donald Zhao) 1:29.90, 2. Noblesville (Jackson Teske, Joshua Naas, Liam Hayward, Brayden Wright) 1:33.94, 3. Westfield (Alden Thomas, Griffin Barents Froman, Gar-



Reporter photo by Richie Hall

The Carmel boys swim team won its own sectional on Saturday, Feb. 21. The Greyhounds swept all 12 events and qualified 26 to Friday’s state prelims.



Reporter photos by Julie Brown

(TOP LEFT) Westfield’s Zach Welch qualified for state in the 200 and 500 freestyles and was part two of the Shamrocks’ state-qualifying relays. (TOP RIGHT) Carmel’s Yi Zheng won two individual events for the Greyhounds and swam on two of their first-place relays. (ABOVE LEFT) Guerin Catholic’s Sam Holl qualified for state in the 500 free. (ABOVE RIGHT) Noblesville’s Joshua Naas advanced to state in the individual medley and breaststroke and two Millers relays.

reth Thomas, Estaban Roussel) 1:35.09, 5. Guerin Catholic (Lucas Morse, Will Ladine, Sam Holl, Adam Jurewicz) 1:44.43.

200 freestyle (State cut 1:42.78)

“A” Final: 1. William Allen (C) 1:36.26, 2. William Lathrop (C) 1:39.59, 3. Lewis Zhang (C) 1:39.65, 4. Zach Welch (W) 1:41.06, 5. Landon Wendel (W) 1:41.82, 7. Adam Hill (N) 1:49.96, 8. Coleman Codalata (N) 1:52.38.

“B” Final: 9. David Naas (N) 1:50.87, 11. Aiden Willig (W) 1:55.23.

200 individual medley (State cut 1:55.24)

“A” Final: 1. Zheng (C) 1:43.60, 2. Noah Moeller (C) 1:48.82, 3. Cory Han (C) 1:50.31, 4. Garreth Thomas (W) 1:52.00, 5. J. Naas (N) 1:52.98, 6. Holl (GC) 1:58.36, 7. Will Chamberley (W) 1:59.16, 8. Collin Monger (N) 1:59.31.

“B” Final: 9. Barents Froman (W) 1:54.67, 11. Keaton Hoffman (N) 2:10.81.

50 freestyle (State cut 21.42)

“A” Final: 1. Zhao (C) 21.17, 2. Lukas Biller (C) 21.44, 3. Drew Set-

meyer (N) 21.58, 5. Eddy Zhu (C) 21.65, 7. Wright (N) 22.14.

“B” Final: 11. Jackson Burgess (W) 23.07, 13. Eli Clutch Creakbaum (N) 23.16, 15. Noah Lorincz (W) 23.72.

One-meter diving (top four advance to regional)

Finals: 1. Alrik Mansberger (C) 386.45, 9. Micah Ruvalcaba (N) 209.60, 12. John Constantino (GC) 154.00.

100 butterfly (State cut 50.96)

“A” Final: 1. Street (C) 49.53, 2. Moeller (C) 49.99, 3. G. Thomas (W) 50.50, 4. Zhu (C) 50.57, 5. Hayward (N) 51.47, 7. Teske (N) 52.58, 8. Lorincz (W) 53.73.

“B” Final: 9. Codalata (N) 55.06, 15. Morse (GC) 1:00.74.

100 freestyle (State cut 46.97)

“A” Final: 1. Hadley (C) 44.46, 2. Lathrop (C) 46.06, 3. Biller (C) 46.21, 4. Setmeyer (N) 46.70, 5. Ladine (GC) 47.94, 7. A. Thomas (W) 48.88.

“B” Final: 10. D. Naas (N) 51.86, 11. Evan Hess (W) 52.45, 12. Caden Ellis (N) 52.90.

500 freestyle (State cut 4:42.52)

“A” Final: 1. W. Allen (C) 4:24.55, 2. Zhang (C) 4:29.44, 3. Austin Bruford (C) 4:29.52, 4. Welch (W) 4:31.06, 5. Wendel (W) 4:41.77, 6. Holl (GC) 4:44.25, 7. C. Monger (N) 4:51.21.

“B” Final: 9. Adam Hill (N) 4:58.30, 11. Willig (W) 5:19.85, 15. Hayden Wong (N) 5:37.55.

200 freestyle relay (State cut 1:28.09)

“A” Final: 1. Carmel (Zhao, Biller, Lathrop, W. Allen) 1:24.21, 2. Noblesville (Setmeyer, J. Naas, Creakbaum, Hayward) 1:26.58, 3. Westfield (Barents Froman, Roussel, Wendel, Welch) 1:28.58.

“B” Final: 9. Guerin Catholic (Blake Durlinger, George Hein, David Cachillo, Adam Jurewicz) 1:42.79.

100 backstroke (State cut 51.63)

“A” Final: 1. Hadley (C) 49.02, 2. Andrew Allen (C) 50.63, 3. Street (C) 50.67, 4. Teske (N) 51.45, 5. Wright (N) 52.25, 6. A. Thomas (W) 53.50, 7. Burgess (W) 55.28.

“B” Final: 9. Hoffman (N) 58.59, 10. Hess (W) 58.68, 12. Morse (GC) 1:06.33.

100 breaststroke (State cut 58.35)

“A” Final: 1. Zheng (C) 54.42, 2. Barents Froman (W) 56.83, 3. Han (C) 56.99, 4. J. Naas (N) 57.40, 5. Roussel (W) 59.60, 6. Chamberley (W) 59.63, 7. Creakbaum (N) 1:00.73.

“B” Final: 9. Luke Feller (C) 57.00, 10. Ladine (GC) 1:02.27, 13. Ellis (N) 1:06.69.

400 freestyle relay (State cut 3:13.65)

“A” Final: 1. Carmel (Bruford, Zhu, Hadley, Zheng) 3:03.21, 2. Westfield (Welch, G. Thomas, Wendel, A. Thomas) 3:11.46, 3. Noblesville (Setmeyer, Teske, C. Monger, Hayward) 3:12.72, 7. Guerin Catholic (Durlinger, Jurewicz, Ladine, Holl) 3:30.93.

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Boys Swimming Sectionals

Tigers claim team sectional, advance 13 to state

The REPORTER

The Fishers boys swim team won its own sectional on Saturday, Feb. 21.

The Tigers scored 516 points and picked up seven event wins. Fishers also qualified 13 swimmers for this Friday's IHSAA state prelims at the IU Natatorium.

Caden Askren was a triple winner for the Tigers. He placed first in the 500 freestyle, then came back to swim in Fishers' winning 200 and 400 free relays.

Other Fishers individual winners were Elijah Fishman in the individual medley, Alex Koo in the 50 free and Logan Senior in the backstroke. Mason Lawson and Kirby Dangle finished 1-2 in diving with exceptional scores: Lawson totaled 640.90 points and Dangle scored 630.40 points.

The Tigers had 11 swims qualify under the state cut, while two swims received callbacks. Those were Qwinton Upshaw in the IM and Brody Chop in the 500 free.

Hamilton Southeastern placed second as a team and qualified eight swims to state.

Camden Bailey led the Royals by winning the 200 free. Five more Southeastern swims qualified under the cut, including Zachary Marchisin and Bryce Salvadori in the 500 free. Marchisin also received a callback in the butterfly, as did the HSE medley relay. Hamilton Heights'

Aiden Clarke received two callbacks, qualifying in the IM and 500 free.

Team scores: Fishers 516, Hamilton Southeastern 436, Oak Hill 303.5, Pendleton Heights 253, Yorktown 221, Hamilton Heights 175.5, Anderson 101, Marion 68, Lapel 63, Elwood 38.

200 medley relay (State cut 1:36.83)

"A" Final: 2. Fishers (Qwinton Upshaw, Dylan Geesaman, Alex Koo, Elijah Fishman) 1:33.19, 3. Southeastern (Alden Sealls, Jagger Chan, Bryce Salvadori, Nolan Pugh) 1:37.01, 6. Heights (Jack Powell, Hudson Holt, Eli Heuer, Owen Semester) 1:53.18.

200 freestyle (State cut 1:42.78)

"A" Final: 1. Camden Bailey (HSE) 1:40.94, 2. Carter Schultz (F) 1:41.80, 3. Caden Askren (F) 1:42.31, 5. Hagen Lee (F) 1:46.60, 6. Ivan Semko (HSE) 1:48.11, 7. Sawyer Green (HSE) 1:50.28.

200 individual medley (State cut 1:55.24)

"A" Final: 1. Fishman (F) 1:53.78, 2. Aiden Clarke (HH) 1:55.30, 3. Upshaw (F) 1:55.43, 4. Salvadori (HSE) 1:56.85, 5. Chan (HSE) 1:59.35, 6. Josh Lawrence (HSE) 2:00.50.

"B" Final: 9. Luis Sanchez (F) 2:04.38.

50 freestyle (State cut 21.42)

"A" Final: 1. Koo (F) 20.48, 4. Geesaman (F) 22.24, 5. Pugh (HSE) 22.34, 7. Rowan Donald (HH) 22.51.

"B" Final: 9. Zakariya Akhtar (F) 22.66, 10. Braeden Van Hyfte (HSE) 23.15, 13. Jackson Reine (HSE) 24.02, 16. Isaac Correll (HH) 24.60.

One-meter diving (top four advance to regional)

Finals: 1. Mason Lawson (F) 640.90, 2. Kirby Dangle (F) 630.40, 6. Joey Justice (HSE) 282.35, 7. Keegan Kavanaugh (HH) 278.60, 8. Hunter Holz (HSE) 269.30, 12. Winston McDonald (HH) 192.75.

100 butterfly (State cut 50.96)

"A" Final: 2. Koo (F) 49.25, 3. Zachary Marchisin (HSE)



Photo provided

The Fishers boys swim team won its own sectional on Saturday, Feb. 21. The Tigers had seven event wins and advanced 11 swims to the state prelims.

51.28, 4. Logan Senior (F) 52.61, 5. Sealls (HSE) 52.95, 6. Grayden Jones (F) 53.06, 7. Lawrence (HSE) 54.17.

100 freestyle (State cut 46.97)

"A" Final: 2. Bailey (HSE) 46.32, 3. Schultz (F) 47.36, 4. Donald (HH) 48.85, 6. Caleb McCoy (F) 49.26, 7. Van Hyfte (HSE) 49.93.

"B" Final: 9. Akhtar (F) 49.63, 10. Xander Goss (HSE) 50.98, 15. Correll (HH) 55.44.

500 freestyle (State cut 4:42.52)

"A" Final: 1. Askren (F) 4:34.22, 2. Marchisin (HSE) 4:40.31, 3. Salvadori (HSE) 4:40.43, 4. Brody Chop (F) 4:42.72, 5. Clarke (HH) 4:43.15, 6. Lee (F) 4:45.97, 7. Semko (HSE) 4:51.37.

200 freestyle relay (State cut 1:28.09)

"A" Final: 1. Fishers (Schultz, Upshaw, Askren, Koo) 1:25.14, 3. Southeastern (Bailey, Marchisin, Chan, Pugh) 1:27.23, 5. Heights (Holt, Correll, Clarke, Donald) 1:32.16.

100 backstroke (State cut 51.63)

"A" Final: 1. Senior (F) 51.75, 2. Jones (F) 54.04, 3. Sealls (HSE) 54.92, 4. Carter Nelsen (HSE) 56.51, 5. Sanchez (F) 56.63, 6. Goss (HSE) 57.69.

100 breaststroke (State cut 58.35)

"A" Final: 2. Upshaw (F) 57.49, 3. Geesaman (F) 57.98, 4. Chan (HSE) 58.33, 5. Fishman (F) 58.63, 8. Grayer Belaire (HSE)

Barger 15th at LC sectional

The REPORTER

University's Nolan Barger competed in the Lawrence Central swimming sectional finals on Saturday, Feb. 21.

Barger placed 15th in the breaststroke with a time of 1:08.71.

1:00.58.

"B" Final: 9. Pugh (HSE) 1:00.61, 10. Holt (HH) 1:20.77, 13. Semester (HH) 1:09.95.

400 freestyle relay (State cut 3:13.65)

"A" Final: 1. Fishers (Askren, Lee, Senior, Schultz) 3:12.36, 2. Southeastern (Bailey, Marchisin, Salvadori, Lawrence) 3:13.97, 3. Heights (Correll, Clarke, Holt, Donald) 3:23.72.

Boys Basketball

IHSAA releases sectional pairings for boys' basketball state tournament

By CRAIG ADKINS

For The Reporter

On Sunday, Feb. 22, the IHSAA released the sectional pairings for the 116th Annual IHSAA Boys' Basketball State Tournament. Over Classes 4A through 1A, there will be 404 teams vying for 64 sectional championships starting Tuesday.

Class 4A Sectional 8 at The Mill at Noblesville features five of Hamilton County's nine teams, along with Zionsville. All five games will be streamed by Hamilton County TV via the IHSAA Champions Network app.

Noblesville (11-10) meets up with Zionsville (12-10) in the opener at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, followed by Westfield (13-7) taking on No. 12 Hamilton Southeastern (13-9).

No. 11 Carmel (15-5) drew the first bye and plays the Noblesville-Zionsville winner at 6 p.m. Friday, March 6 in the first semifinal.

Rocks finish HCC play with win

The REPORTER

The Westfield boys basketball team finished its Hoosier Crossroads Conference campaign Friday, Feb. 20 with a 67-59 win over Franklin Central at CSI Gymnasium.

The Shamrocks jumped out to a 19-11 lead after the first quarter. Vandregriff and Luke Vandegriff both scored seven points. Westfield led 36-29 at halftime, with Brock Detamore pour-

No. 1 Fishers (22-0) meets up with the Westfield-HSE winner in the second semifinal Friday night. The championship will be Saturday, March 7 at 7 p.m.

Class 3A Sectional 24 is hosted by New Castle at the famous New Castle Fieldhouse, the world's largest high school gym.

No. 11 Jay County (18-3) opens with No. 17 Yorktown (13-7) at 6 p.m. Tuesday, followed by New Castle (10-10) hosting the Hamilton Heights Huskies (12-9).

Connorsville (13-9) drew a bye and plays the Jay County-Yorktown winner in the first semifinal at 6 p.m. on Friday, March 6. Delta (13-9) also has a bye, matching them with the New Castle-Heights winner. The championship is Saturday, March 7 at 7 p.m.

Sectional 25 in 3A is in Frankfort at Case Arena (The Hot Dog House) with seven teams.

Tuesday's lone game at

7 p.m. pits No. 14 Brebeuf Jesuit (14-6) and Tri-West (13-8). On Wednesday, March 4, Danville (8-13) and Crawfordsville tangle in the first game at 6:00 and Guerin Catholic (18-5) plays Frankfort (2-19).

Lebanon (10-11) drew the lone bye and plays the winner of Brebeuf and Tri-West at 6 p.m. Friday, March 6 in the first semifinal. The second semi has the Danville-Crawfordsville and Guerin-Frankfort winners. The semifinal winners play at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 7 for the championship.

Class 2A Sectional 39 is at Elwood, where Sheridan hopes to bring home its first sectional title since 1983.

Tipton (5-15) and Taylor (14-7) are up first at 6 p.m. Tuesday, with 10th-ranked Lapel (15-5) and 15th-rated Frankton (16-5) will battle for school-district supremacy

in the second game.

No. 13 Sheridan (17-3) got the first bye and plays the Tipton-Taylor winner at 6 p.m. Friday, March 6 in the first semi. The second semifinal has Elwood (10-13) against the Lapel-Frankton winner. The championship is Saturday, March 7 at 7 p.m.

University travels to Indianapolis Cardinal Ritter in Sectional 42.

The Trailblazers (13-9) play first against Monrovia (12-8) at 6 p.m. Tuesday and will be followed by Cardinal Ritter (11-10) facing one-loss No. 16 Indianapolis Riverside (21-1).

Covenant Christian (12-9) plays the University-Monrovia winner in the first semifinal at 6 p.m. Friday, March 6. Park Tudor (12-8) meets up with the Ritter-Riverside winner in the second semifinal and the championship is Saturday, March 7 at 7 p.m.

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Boys Diving

Lawson, Dangle take 1-2 at regional

The REPORTER

Fishers picked up a 1-2 finish at the Fort Wayne South Side regional on Tuesday.

Mason Lawson won the event, scoring 524.10 points. He was followed by his Tigers teammate Kirby

Dangle, who placed second with 495.65 points.

The two Fishers divers qualified for the IHSAA state meet on Saturday. Joining them is Carmel's Alik Mansberger, who placed fifth at the regional with 354.05 points.

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Boys Basketball

Hawks beat Chargers, Page clears 1,000 points

The REPORTER

Sheridan scored a big win and Trey Page reached a big milestone Friday, Feb. 20 at Larry Hobbs Hall.

The Blackhawks beat North Montgomery 59-31. Sheridan outscored the Chargers in all four quarters, starting with a 10-7 lead after the first period. Devon Hamilton scored six points in the opening period.

The Hawks increased their lead to 25-13 by halftime, then took further control in the third quarter, adding 17 points for a 42-20 advantage.

Page scored six points in the third and added six more in the fourth, including a basket that pushed him over the 1,000-point mark. Page finished the game with 18 points.

Hamilton scored 14 points, while Jax Peerman added 11 points and dished out eight assists.

Sheridan collected 33 rebounds as a team, with Chance Spencer pulling seven. Desh Donathan and Hamilton each made six rebounds while John Crowder had five. Hamilton dished out four assists.

The Blackhawks dropped a high-scoring game at Benton Central 86-76 on Monday. The Bison led 18-11 after one quarter and 39-22 at halftime. Sheridan kept fighting, pouring in 33 points in the fourth quarter.

Page finished with 25 points, while Hamilton scored 24. Donathan contributed 11 points and pulled eight rebounds. Peerman handed out six assists, while Hamilton also made four assists and four rebounds.

Sheridan is 17-4 and hosts Traders Point Christian on Thursday to finish the regular season.



Reporter photo by Richie Hall
Sheridan's Trey Page cleared 1,000 points during the Blackhawks' win over North Montgomery on Friday, Feb. 20.

Golden Eagles get past North Central

The REPORTER

The Guerin Catholic boys basketball team won a home game Friday, Feb. 20, beating North Central 57-54 at The Nest.

The Golden Eagles led 17-14 after the first quarter, but the Panthers tied the game at 23-23 by halftime. The third quarter saw both

teams score 14 points and finished in a 37-37 tie, but Guerin Catholic poured in 20 points in the fourth quarter to get the win.

Carter Muran led the Golden Eagles' scoring with 25 points. Zach Tansel added 10 points. Hayden Rogers dished out seven assists.

Huskies win fifth-place conference game

By CRAIG ADKINS

For The Reporter

On Friday, Feb. 20, Hamilton Heights traveled to Lafayette to face Central Catholic for the fifth-place game in the Hoosier Conference.

The Huskies kept their play consistent throughout and came home with a dominating victory over the host Knights, 70-45.

Heights and Central Catholic were in a close battle in the first with the Huskies leading 19-14 through one.

They kept it going in the second, outscoring LCC 17-7 to lead 36-21 at halftime.

The second half also belonged to Heights, as they scored 34 to the Knights' 24 to cruise to the 25-point win.

Jackson Mikesell led Heights with 21 and seven rebounds. Jack Kakasuleff joined in double figures with 14 and also dished out five assists. Rees Knapp's nine, along with Drew Woodruff scoring eight and Gavin Lucchesi six helped balance out the Husky scoring.

Millers win final home games over Avon, New Haven

By CRAIG ADKINS

For The Reporter

NOBLESVILLE – Senior night is always a chance to celebrate the student-athletes that have made an impact over the last four years. Noblesville had a slightly different twist.

Valparaiso commit Justin Curry II is out for the remainder of the season. Curry got the final start of his high school career on Friday, Feb. 20 and scored the first two points of the game, stationary underneath the basket before checking out.

The Millers jumped out to a solid early lead and kept the Orioles at a distance to win the Hoosier Crossroads Conference game, 56-46.

The game was tied at 4-4 and 6-6. Then, senior Max Flanagan sank a pair of three-pointers to make it 12-6, forcing Avon to burn a quick timeout.

"It's never easy. Everybody's trying to get a little momentum before the tournament," said Noblesville head coach Scott McClelland. "We got off to a great start and that certainly helped us."

At the end of one, it was 18-8 with the scoring

spread out by four other Millers.

Baron Walker scored all 14 Noblesville second quarter points and they led 32-19 at halftime.

Avon was able to cut into the Miller lead in the third and get it down to four, but a couple breaks helped get it back to 10 at 43-33 through three.

"We had that little stretch in the third, but the guys showed some resolve and resiliency. A couple made some plays. Baron scored the ball real well with 28. It was a good conference win for us and a chance to find momentum going into the tournament," said McClelland.

Noblesville held off a late push by the Orioles for the league win.

Baron Walker led with a career-high 32 points on 11-for-18 shooting, including three triples. The future Butler Bulldog also had seven rebounds and four assists.

Flanagan scored 11, also making three from outside, and grabbing six boards.

"He's played well. Against Center Grove, he shot the ball really well,"

McClelland said. "He had a good first half against Brownsburg. We're going to need that."

On Saturday, Feb. 21, the Millers welcomed New Haven from northeast of Fort Wayne.

New Haven led 4-0 on a couple dunks, but Noblesville stormed back with a 9-3 run with five from Flanagan and another couple from Walker and Luke Fogg for a 9-7 lead.

There were two ties and four lead changes before the Millers took control for good. Tied 15-15, Max Flanagan drilled a couple open shots from the perimeter for a 21-17 first quarter lead.

Another 16 went onto the scoreboard in the second for Noblesville, mainly from Walker and Flanagan scoring seven each in the period for a 37-27 halftime score.

"Our defense was good. We kept them out of the paint for the most part, but our rebounding has to get better," said McClelland.

Haney was pivotal in getting the third off right. He drove inside the lane for three field goals.

"I thought Royce Haney really came in clutch," said

McClelland. "A couple runners and handled the ball against some pressure. He was put into a starting role half an hour before the game, because Adam [Fine] just couldn't go. He played with great energy and within himself."

Walker scored another eight to put New Haven in an even bigger hole at 59-33.

The lead grew to as big as 23 at 61-38 to begin the fourth on Haney's fourth basket.

Then, with 5:17 left in the game, Baron Walker fouled out bringing the ball up the court. Fogg made four free throws and Flanagan his sixth three to cruise to the 19-point victory.

"We've still got room to grow," said McClelland. "I still think this group can get better these next 6-8 practices and put together a game plan to beat Muncie Central on Tuesday."

Flanagan had a career-best 28 on 11-of-12 field goals, including 6-for-6 on three-pointers. Walker scored 20, Haney 10 and Luke Fogg six and six boards. The Millers shot 58 percent overall (24-of-41) and 9-for-15 from outside.

Huskies fall at Jay County

By CRAIG ADKINS

For The Reporter

Hamilton Heights concluded their back-to-back weekend on the road just northeast of Muncie in Portland to face Jay County on Saturday, Feb. 21.

Unfortunately, the Class 3A No. 12 Patriots used a big second half to overcome the Huskies, 67-60.

The Huskies got off to a good start with a 14-12 lead. They carried the momentum through the second for a 19-15 quarter to stay up by a 33-27 halftime score.

The Patriots flipped the script in the second half. They woke up on both ends of the floor, holding Heights in check 20-8 and took the lead 47-41.

Jay County's offense kept going in the fourth with a 20-19 advantage to stay ahead of the Huskies for the seven-point win.

Rees Knapp led with 15 points, followed by Jack Kakasuleff joining in double digits with 12 and five assists. Jackson Mikesell (nine), Will DeStefano and Drew Woodruff seven each and Austin Day all chipped in for a balanced effort.

Hounds split weekend games

The REPORTER

Carmel split a pair of away games this past weekend.

The Greyhounds dropped an overtime contest at Warren Central, 55-52 on Friday, Feb. 20. Carmel jumped out to an 18-8 lead after the first quarter, then was ahead 28-17 at halftime and 42-30 after three periods.

But the Warriors came back, outscoring the

Hounds 15-3 in the fourth to force overtime. Warren then edged out Carmel 10-7 in the extra period.

Cash Daniels and Evan Harrell both scored 16 points for the Greyhounds; Harrell pulled 10 rebounds for a double-double. Daniels had five rebounds and four assists.

Carmel traveled to Providence on Saturday, Feb. 21 and won 58-39. Stats were not available at press time.

IBCA boys basketball poll – Week of Feb. 22

Rank	School	Points	Record
1	Fishers (22)	440	22-0
2	Silver Creek	401	24-1
3	Crown Point	391	18-1
4	Pike	379	20-3
5	Plainfield	357	21-2
6	Mt. Vernon	328	20-3
7	Lawrence North	262	17-4
8	Northridge	256	20-1
9	Terre Haute North	253	20-3
10	Carmel	230	15-5
11	South Bend St. Joseph	213	18-4
12	Cathedral	191	18-4
13	New Albany	184	16-5
14	Ben Davis	174	13-6
15	South Bend Riley	162	18-4
16	Chesterton	80	18-4
17	Princeton	52	19-3
18	Penn	51	15-6
19	Hamilton Southeastern	32	13-9
20	Westfield	29	13-7

First place votes are in parentheses.

Other schools receiving votes, with records
Avon (10-12), Barr-Reeve (20-1), Blackhawk Christian (15-7), Bloomfield (14-7), Brebeuf Jesuit (14-6), Centerville (20-2), Columbia City (17-4), Crispus Attucks (14-5), Evansville North (17-4), Fort Wayne Carroll (12-9), Guerin Catholic (18-5), Kouts (21-0), New Haven (16-6), Noblesville (11-10), Northview (17-5), Oak Hill (19-1), Paoli (21-0), Pendleton Heights (17-4), Parke Heritage (18-4), Warren Central (6-13), Westview (20-1), Yorktown (13-7), Zionsville (12-10), 21st Century Charter School – Gary (13-6).

Tigers clinch perfect HCC campaign

By RICHARD TORRES

For The Reporter

For the fifth time in the last six seasons, the top-ranked Class 4A Fishers Tigers proved they're the best in the Hoosier Crossroads Conference.

Fishers capped a third straight undefeated HCC season on Friday, Feb. 20, with a decisive 66-42 victory at Zionsville. The unbeaten Tigers improved to 22-0 on the season and finished a perfect 7-0 in the HCC to capture the league title outright.

The win marked the program's 25th consecutive HCC regular-season triumph.

Junior Levi Walker led the Tigers at Zionsville with a game-high 18 points. Senior Kai McGrew had 17 points, and junior Cooper

Zachary added 10 to give Fishers a trio of players in double figures.

The Tigers used efficiency to roll past the host Eagles, as a lopsided 19-3 third quarter padded Fishers' 29-28 halftime advantage.

Royals beat Bulldogs, add to win streak

By RICHARD TORRES

For The Reporter

The Class 4A Hamilton Southeastern Royals simply refuse to lose.

Already on a five-game winning streak heading into their home contest with Brownsburg, on Friday, Feb. 20, the Royals flipped the switch in the second quarter and made it six straight.

Down 12-11 after the first quarter against the Hoosier Crossroads Conference rival Bulldogs, HSE outscored its opponent 32-13 through the next two frames to win big, 60-37.

HSE improved to 13-9 overall and finished 4-3 in the HCC. The Royals' win streak began on Jan. 31 against Pendleton Heights and included a pair of HCC

wins. The Royals were led by sophomore Varschon Clark against Brownsburg with a game-high 20 points and three steals. Senior Landon Osswald posted a double-double with 14 points

and 11 rebounds. He added a block and two assists.

Senior Luke Weemer had nine points and 12 rebounds with two assists. Seniors Jack Jacobs and Kallen Hoef both chipped in five points each.

Thanks for reading!

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White River Family Cruise
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